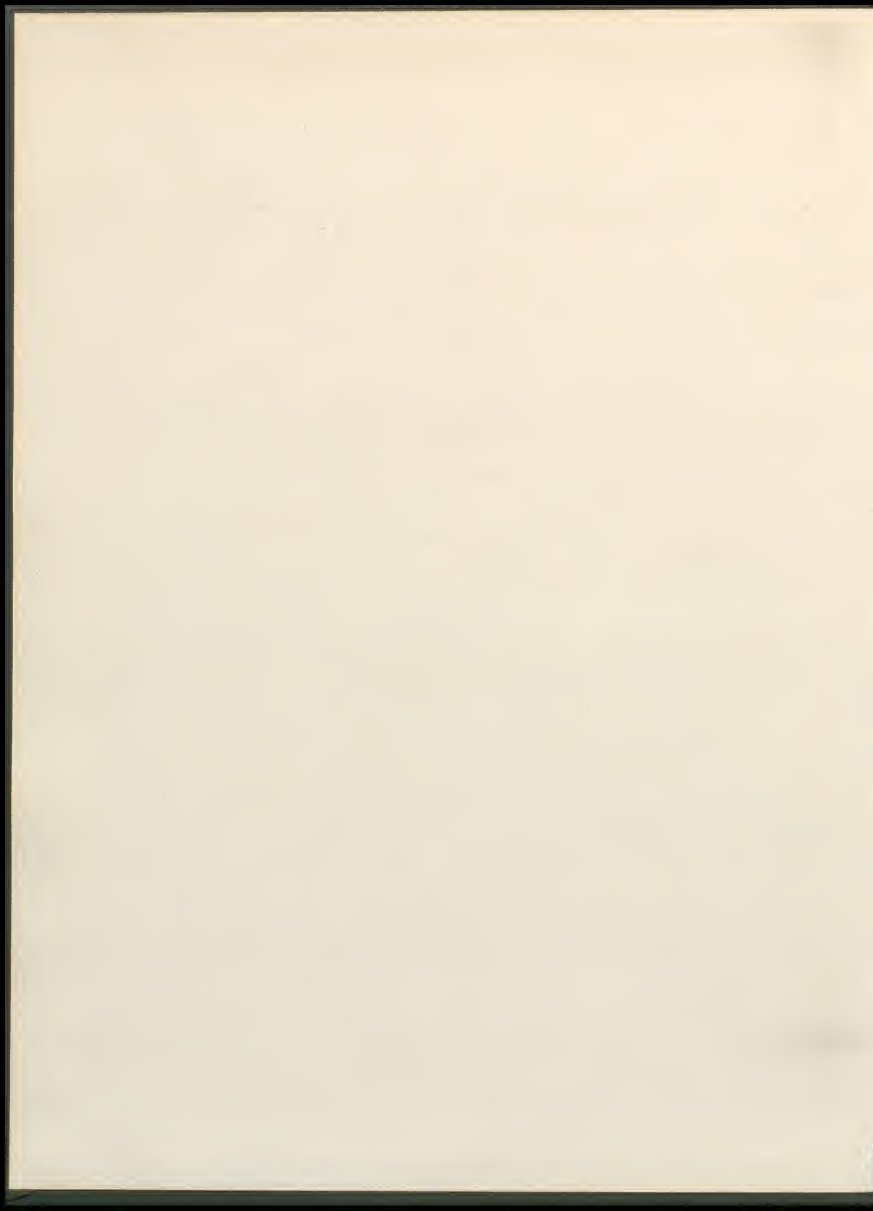


*F***IRST** *C***CLASS**

1 9 9 6

**MERRILLVILLE**



4  
*Social Rage*

28  
*Athletics*

74  
*Rewind*

84  
*Spirit*

116  
*Academics*

138  
*People*

the 1990s, the number of people with a mental health problem has increased by 50% (Mental Health Foundation 1999). The prevalence of mental health problems has increased in the general population, and the incidence of mental health problems has increased in the prison population (Mental Health Foundation 1999).

There is a growing awareness of the need to address the mental health needs of prisoners. The Department of Health (1999) has published a strategy for mental health services, which includes a commitment to improve the mental health of prisoners. The Department of Health (1999) has also published a strategy for mental health services, which includes a commitment to improve the mental health of prisoners.

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# First Class



Merrillville  
High  
School  
276 East  
68th Place  
Merrillville  
IN, 46410  
Enrollment  
2,000

Merrillvue  
1 9 9 6

Volume 71

# First Class

The first bell of the year rang, as students rushed into homeroom. For all of us it was a sound of dread and relief all at the same time. It was a sound many of us had been used to hearing for almost four years. We returned to school with a wariness that fills every student over the summer vacation. The school daze that so many fall into was slowly fading and a realization that it was time to get serious filled that void. Some of us were embarking on a journey that would define who we were and who we were going to be. To some of us this year was going to be the end of our valiant journey. From the start this year was unlike any other; it was our year. A year to make changes and a year to start





over. We planned our week-ends months in advance, and we never hesitated to jump on the fun. Many of us grew up. We strived for excellence in all that we did to prove to our rivals we were number one. We fought every game like it was the last, and although we faced downfalls, more than ever our teammates were there to pick us up. We cheered for our team with confidence, and we backed each other when ever needed. Taking part in the community helped proved that our generation was not a generation of slackers, it was a generation of us. We had a First Class school, and First Class fans. And this year we all dared to proved that we at MHS were truly, First Class.

# Living Your Life to the Fullest

GETTING UP AND GOING TO SCHOOL WASN'T THE ONLY ASPECT OF OUR HIGH SCHOOL LIVES. **OUR** LIVES TRULY BEGAN BEHIND THE SCENES. SPENDING TIME WITH OUR FRIENDS, WAS A MAJOR PART OF EVERYDAY LIFE. WHETHER IT WAS HANGING OUT AT HOME OR CRUISE<sup>®</sup> ON A SATURDAY NIGHT WITH THE CREW, WHEN SPENDING TIME WITH FRIENDS WASN'T AN OPTION, MOST OF US WERE BUSY **MAKING OUR** TO SPEND ON THAT FAVORITE SWEATER WE SAW IN THE WALL, AND FOR THAT UPCOMING WEEKEND BASH. SOME REALIZED THAT LIFE WASN'T ALWAYS A PARTY. FOR SOME IT MEANT GROWING UP. OUR **STYLES** DIFFERED FROM THE SHOES ON OUR FEET, TO THE PACKS ON OUR BACKS, TO THE WAY WE WORE OUR HAIR. **FRIENDSHIPS** CHANGED AND NEW ONES GREW, AND A FEW OF US FELL IN **LOVE** ALONG THE WAY. WE MADE **MEMORIES** THAT WOULD LAST A LIFE TIME, JOKES WE WOULD NEVER FORGET, AND PLENTY OF FUN TIMES TO LOOK BACK ON AND SAY, "HEY MAYBE HIGH SCHOOL WASN'T THAT BAD AFTER ALL." AND THAT **OUR** LIVES WERE THE **SOCIAL RAGE**



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# Money Matters

By:  
Candice Parker

Besides  
working  
and doing  
homework,  
students  
are  
constantly  
trying to  
get as  
much  
money as  
possible  
to do  
things on  
their free  
time.

You were on a mission- a mission to Fagan Pharmacy to buy something embarrassing for your mom. Someone from school was the last person you wanted to see, but you had a plan to dodge them in the aisles. Little did you know this would do you no good because Joe Horst, '96, worked cash register, and he rang you up. When asked, he said "nothing exciting" happened there, so maybe he didn't notice you.

Things might become dull for Joe, but not for others like Hank Lech, '96 who had an experience at his job, Old Navy Clothing Co. not everyone

could handle. "I was helping a heavy-set woman, and she started looking at underwear. When the woman picked up thong underwear I thought she accidentally picked up the wrong kind, since sometimes the underwear get mixed up so I politely told her that and was surprised when she flirtatiously replied, 'I like them like this.'"

If you thought that was bad, Mike Radiceski, '96, said, "A lot of kinky stuff has happened at Red Lobster that really isn't appropriate for the yearbook." Chris Miller, '97, worked at Towne Center and said, "This old lady thought I was her grandson. I didn't even know her."

It was not unusual for a student to have a job, some with work shifts ranging from two minutes to seventeen hours. Although most people questioned said their jobs took up a lot of their time, they added that it didn't really affect their school work. In the end it was all worth their time, regardless of the strange things that happened.

---

"I was helping a heavy set woman  
and she started looking at  
underwear."

---

• Hank Lech, '96

---

AMANDA  
RICHARDSON  
SETS UP A  
DISPLAY AT  
BATH AND  
BODY  
WORKS IN  
SOUTHLAKE  
MALL.



VANILLA OR  
CHOCOLATE?"  
KRISTIE TROCK  
HELPS ANSWER  
THAT MIND  
BOGGLING  
QUESTION.  
TROCK WORKS  
AT DAIRY  
QUEEN IN  
CROWN  
POINT.





LISA MALO HELPS A  
CUSTOMER WITH A  
PURCHASE. SHE  
WORKS AT OSCO  
DRUGS IN CROWN  
POINT



BRIAN BRATCHER  
HELPS A  
CUSTOMER LACE  
UP SHOES AT  
MIKE'S SPORTING  
GOODS. HAVING  
A JOB AND  
PARTICIPATING IN  
SPORTS TAKES AN  
UNDERSTANDING  
EMPLOYER.



THE JOKERS OF  
THE ROUND  
TABLE. PHIL  
MARTIN, BRIAN  
BRATCHER,  
CLINT HENRY,  
ANGELO  
HOWARD AND  
MONTELL  
WILLIAMS GET  
TOGETHER TO  
PLAY CARDS AT  
A FRIEND'S  
HOUSE.



MICHELLE  
JANISZEWSKI  
AND LISA MALO  
BOWL AT  
STARDUST.  
STARDUST WAS A  
POPULAR  
HANGOUT FOR  
STUDENTS  
DURING THE  
SCHOOL YEAR.







# Hangin' Ten

By: Andy Crane

When your friends called and asked, "Do you want to go somewhere?" where exactly was it that you were going? Did you know in advance or only find out when you got there? That was the operative question. Usually parents wanted to know, but that was alright. Well, sometimes. If you didn't mind that they knew where you were going, it was a safe bet that it was alright.

Some of the most popular places to hang out were always filled to the brim with Merrillville students. Some of the places that we tallied were the beach, the park, a boyfriend or girlfriend's house, trails at a park, or any restaurant that suited their fancy.

Some of the most popular places, depending on time of day, were always de-

pendent upon price, hospitality, and/or quality. Usually, Baker's Square was packed after Friday's football game. Maybe it was the pie or the coffee.


On days of teacher in-service, The Olive Garden had a wait of 10 minutes or more for lunch! It was definitely the soup, salad, and breadsticks for \$4.99.

Denny's was open 24 hours and students could stay until they felt like leaving. There was one little catch. Denny's kicked you out if you didn't order anything. They said it hurts their business. "We used to go to Denny's, but not now," remarked Christy Stewart, '98.

Any of these places or ideas for where to "hang out" were ideal for whoever wished to get away from the everyday beat of life.

Kristina Malast, '97 said, "I do what I please on the spur of the moment." That worked except for having overprotective parents, in which case that could be a hindrance.

With so  
many  
places  
available  
to go  
waste  
some  
time,  
many  
students  
have a  
hard time  
trying to  
make a  
choice.



FASHION  
FAUXES,  
KIMBERLY  
ONOFF, LISA  
MALO, AND  
STEPHANIE  
BUZEVSKI SPEND  
AN AFTERNOON  
AT FAO  
SWARTZ TOY  
STORE IN  
CHICAGO. THE  
THREE SPENT  
SOME WEEKENDS  
SHOPPING  
TOGETHER IN  
CHICAGO.

## Free Stylin'

By: Samantha Parker  
and Kevin Newton

Many different styles graced the halls this year. They defined who we are, and they also define how people perceive us.

You were walking down M hall during passing period when all of a sudden out of the corner of your eye you noticed a person you had never seen before. You took a second look and you were now convinced you had seen the sexiest person you had ever seen in your entire life.

Then, unfortunately, you noticed their clothes. Not that double knit, reversible slacks weren't sexy, but you passed on the chance to meet this person. Maybe if you had talked to the person, you would have realized that they genuinely had a heart of gold, but you just could not see beyond their appearance.

Did a person's appearance really mean that much to you, or could you put away all of the pretenses and look inside of a person for what really matters? Appearance and style seemed to be very important to almost all students.

So what was style? Felicia Taylor, '97, said, "Style is a representation of someone's feelings and inner thoughts." The way a person dressed reflected a lot about them. It may also have given people the wrong idea about them, however. Some people dressed according to their moods and not didn't care what others thought of them.

Practically everyone was guilty of judging people based on their clothes. A person's style should not determine if you wanted to be their friends or what kind of person they were. Most people dressed like the people they hangout with. As their friends changed, so did their style.

---

" Style is a representation of someone's feelings and inner thoughts."

• Felicia Taylor, '97

---

STYLIN' IN THE  
HALLS,  
CHRISTINA  
GARGANO, JAY  
WAYTE, AND  
TANYA PAWL  
SPORT SOME OF  
THIS YEAR'S  
FASHIONS. AS  
ALWAYS THE  
PIRATE  
CHEERLEADER  
UNIFORM WAS  
OFTEN PRESENT  
THROUGHOUT THE  
HALLS. OLD  
SCHOOL  
ADIDAS, BOOTS,  
KHAKIS AND BIG  
LEGGED JEANS  
WERE ALSO ONE  
OF THIS YEAR'S  
TOP FASHIONS.





BACKPACKS ARE DAILY ESSENTIALS OF STYLE. EVERY STUDENT EXPRESSED HIS OR HER OWN INDIVIDUALITY WITH THE KIND THEY HAD.

MIKE VILLANUEVA TAKES TIME OUT TO LOUNGE IN THE HALL. BIG, BAGGY AND COMFORTABLE WERE IMPORTANT FEATURES OF THE POPULAR STYLES THIS YEAR.



# Sibling Rivalry

By: Samantha Parker

Whether  
it's  
homework,  
or a  
personal  
problem;  
a brother  
or sister  
will  
always be  
there for  
some  
help.

Most siblings did not always get along. There was usually something that got between them. Lisa Taylor, '96, and Katie, '99, seemed to get along very well contrary to this belief. About six years ago, their mom re-married, and they now have a step sister, Cara Colon, '97. Katie, Lisa, and Cara adjusted rather slowly to each other. Katie described her sister Lisa, "She's sensitive, intelligent, nice, and cool to have as a sister because she gives a lot of advice". Lisa said that Katie was the youngest, most outgoing and always cheerful. Lisa and Katie Taylor agreed that Cara was very dramatic, outgoing, and spoke her mind anytime. They also added that they do not even feel like step sisters anymore because they grew together over the years.

Nikki Guernsey, '96, and Angie, '98, seemed to be very different when you first looked at them.

But once you talked to them you realized that they were very similar. The Guernsey girls were both in choir and on the school softball team. Nikki described Angie as being "Quiet and shy at school, but once she's home she is obnoxious and acts different." Nikki spent most of her time working.

She spent her free-time with her boyfriend and friends. Angie described her older sister as being "loud and hyper." She thought that her older sister got along with a lot of people and was friendly because of her outgoing personality. Angie spent time with her friends "doing whatever they can find." Nikki and Angie both agreed that they got along well and did not mind that others think they were so much alike.

Besides their looks, you would never believe that Jason Riveria, '96, and Steve, '98, were brothers. Jason seemed to be quiet around most people including his brother. He also seemed to be uncomfortable around people he did not know. Steve was more outgoing and had no problem talking to just anyone. Steve said that getting along with Jason was not a problem because, "I never really see him because he's never home." After graduation, Jason planned to go to technical school to be a mechanic. He spent most of his time playing basketball or fishing with his friends. Steve was involved in varsity wrestling, soccer, and played junior varsity baseball. When he was not playing school sports, he usually hangs out with his friends. Jason and Steve did not agree on most things, but that did not seem to affect their relationship.

Some people would be embarrassed to have a brother or sister here, but it did have its advantages. Getting along with your siblings made everything easier on you and your family. Once people got older, they tended to get along with each other better. Until then they just had to bear with each other.

---

"She's sensitive, intelligent, nice  
and cool to have as a sister."

• Katie Taylor, '99

---

BRANDON  
NELSON AND  
HIS SISTER  
NICOLE CATCH  
SOME TUNES ON  
THE TUBE.  
SPENDING TIME  
WITH SIBLINGS  
MOSTLY OCCURS  
IN THE EVENING,  
WHEN EVERYONE  
IS AT HOME.





A LITTLE HELP  
WITH THE  
HOMEWORK  
GOES A LONG  
WAY. JOE  
FOSTER HELPS HIS  
SISTER  
MARYGRACE  
WITH HER  
SCHOOL WORK.



BRENNAN SEYDEL  
AND HIS BROTHER  
DREW PLAY SEGA  
AFTER SCHOOL.





## Sobering Up

By: Jamie McKenney

It's Friday night. The first day of that long awaited weekend. The parents are gone so it's time to party.

It wasn't so long ago that you promised you'd never use drugs or drink any kind of alcohol. As fifth graders you participated in DARE. High school students took classes like Quest and Substance Abuse and participated in clubs like Quest and Students Against Driving Drunk. Even classes like Intermediate Comp and Speech asked students to write about drug and alcohol abuse. Last spring MHS students even joined forces with the Merrillville Police Department to raise students' awareness about the results of drinking or drug use and driving. Still some students ignored all of those trying to steer them onto the right path until it led them into trouble.

"I remember my freshman year," said Danny\*, "I never ever thought I'd ever do drugs or be friends with some one who did. But now, it's my senior year and I've tried things."

Sometimes this so-called fun wasn't limited to weekends; it began during the week too.

"It started off on Fridays," Alex\* said, "pretty soon I was drinking on Sundays and I couldn't make it to school on Monday. After a while it was everyday. Now I'm a senior and I have 22 credits."

Take Alan\* for example. Alan was very heavily into drugs his junior and for most of his senior year. "All my friends tried to warn me that I was screwing up my life. That I wasn't going to graduate, but I never listened," he said. "I didn't care about school, my life, my friends, or my family. All I ever cared about was where I was going to get my next hit. I've skipped school so much this year, I'm surprised they haven't kicked me out yet. I'm beginning to think my friends are right. I've cut back. It's hard, but I think it's time I grew up. I think it's just time to figure out where I'm headed," he said. A week later I talked to Alan\* again. He lost all his first semester credits. Then he didn't have enough credits to graduate.

Some of us have been there, or we know someone who has. We've all seen the problems drugs and alcohol can cause. For some it's affected us and the way we live. Teenage years are tough. There are a lot of choices we face each day some easy some not so easy. Nevertheless, alcohol and drugs are not the answer.

Schools have many programs to warn students about the dangers of using drugs or alcohol. Sadly, students sometimes don't heed these warnings.

AT PROM TIME STUDENTS IN THE THIRD PERIOD QUEST CLASS JOINED WITH THE MPD TO TRY TO RAISE STUDENTS AWARENESS OF DRINKING AND DOING DRUGS. THIS MOCK WAKE HELD IN ALL FOUR LUNCH PERIODS WAS A PART OF THAT PROMOTION.

## High School Sweethearts

By: Jamie McKenney

Three of  
our  
schools  
most  
popular  
couples  
tell it  
how it is.  
Sometimes  
good  
sometimes  
bad, but  
as long  
as you  
love the  
one your  
with you  
won't be  
without.

Who'da thought that Spanish class could have drawn two people together to become one of our school's most popular couples? Well, quite a few months ago, Barb Hoagland and Mike Rathburn, both '97, started a journey into the land of cupid heaven. Not really, but looking at them you might think just that.

"Me and Barb met in Spanish. I was causing trouble and the teacher moved me next to Barbara," Mike stated, "I always wanted to talk to her and thought she was cute, so I decided to talk to her. We gradually became better and better friends. We started doing things outside of school, and we just eventually started going out."

Barb and Mike were close friends before they started dating and both agree that it helped. "The better you know someone," Mike said, "the better you can get along with each other." And by coincidence....? Barb had the same to say.

Both have after school jobs. Barb works at Old Navy Clothing Company, while juggling cheerleading also and Mike works at Angelo's Sicilian Carte.

"Our after school activities interfere a bit, because we can't see each other as much," Barb said, "but there are things we both have to do and we respect each other for that."

If running into each other was just a saying, then Sonja Mitchell and David Kirklen, both '96, wouldn't both be running track for MHS.

David and Sonja have been dating for more than two years. Both had just left previous relationships to be with one another.

Both were friends before they became a couple.

"I think being my friend first was important, in order for trust to exist," Kirklen stated

"The most memorable day was the day I asked Sonja to be mine." David added and Sonja said the same.

"David and I both have a job, we also run track," Sonja said, "Sometimes we miss each other but we manage."

David added, "It does cut our time we spend together, but we have grown to understand each other wants and needs."

While the rest of our couples work, Mark Mazany and Rebekah Jusko, both '96, but they both play baseball and softball. Which sometimes makes it hard to see each other.

Mark and Buck, as most of Rebeka's friends call her, have been dating for almost over a year now. They were not friends before they were a couple, but Buck stated, "In a way it can be very helpful to be friends, you could have the whole comfort thing going already, however if the relationship ends you could loose a friend."

For Mark the most memorable day for him was, "The day me and Rebeka wrestled in her front yard one summer day." Rebeka said the most memorable day for her was, "One summer night Mark called me up and told me to dress up, we went out to dinner at a nice restaurant, afterwards we went to the beach and walked around barefoot and talked. Everything was perfect that night."

Finding a serious relationship is hard, that's why when we find one we tend to cherish it so much. Whether or not these feelings will last, one can always look back and remember how that one person made you feel, even if it was only high school. And who knows we could be coming back to our ten year reunion with that same person.

MARK MAZANY  
AND REBEKAH  
'BUCK' JUSKO,  
BOTH '97.





DAVID KIRKLEN  
AND SONJA  
MITCHELL, BOTH  
'96.



MIKE RATHBURN  
AND BARBRA  
HOAGLAND,  
BOTH '97



# Rug-rat Sitting

By: Tanya Pawl

When all else fails, there are always busy mothers needing a last minute person as a weekend helper. Most of the time that person is a babysitter.

Looking for a way to make some quick cash? Although it may not spin your wheels, babysitting was an easy job... for some people.

"It's not much fun, but it's an easy way to make money," said Nicole Nelson '99.

Babysitting did not apply for juniors and seniors who had jobs, but it's money in the pocket for freshmen and sophomores who were too young to get a job yet. Transportation was also very simple. Their parents could drop them off and pick them up, and there didn't have to be any embarrassment.

Babysitting also came in handy even for the upper-classmen, to earn some extra money. If you 'accidentally' spent your whole paycheck in a matter of a couple hours and you still needed the bucks, don't stoop to the level of having to ask your parents. Stoop to the level of brat-sitting.

Of course, you may have plenty of better things to do over the weekend. But when it came down to it and you needed the money, you gotta do what you gotta do.

Bryn Pendley '98 said, "I have better ways to spend my weekend than babysitting, but it's the only way to make money."

When you babysat, try not to think about all the fun things you were missing out on that night. Just hold in your anger and smile. Give a little thought to all the green stuff comin' your way for putting up with those sweet little rugrats.

---

"It's an easy way to make money."

•Nicole Nelson, '99

---

MARGARET  
RUNION PLAYS  
MINI-POOL WITH  
A CHILD SHE  
FREQUENTLY  
BABYSITS FOR.

HELEN  
ANDREATOS  
TRIES TO KEEP  
HER LITTLE SISTER  
BUSY BY  
PLAYING WITH  
STUFFED  
ANIMALS.  
MANY PEOPLE  
ARE EXPECTED  
TO WATCH THEIR  
YOUNGER  
SIBLINGS. THIS  
TOO IS A KIND  
OF BABYSITTING.



MICHELLE  
JANISZEWSKI BUCKLES  
UP HER FRIEND'S  
LITTLE SISTER.  
PARTICIPATING IN  
ACTIVITIES WITH THE  
CHILDREN OFTEN  
HELPS KEEP THEM  
OCCUPIED.



NANCY JAKUBIN  
DOES HER  
HOMEWORK IN THE  
HALLWAY DURING  
THIRD HOUR.  
HAVING HAIR  
SHAVED IN ONE  
SECTION AND LONG  
IN ANOTHER IS JUST  
ONE OF THE  
POPULAR HAIRSTYLES  
REPRESENTED IN THE  
HALLS OF MHS.



# Hair Today Gone Tommorrow

By: Kevin Newton

Something old, something new, something purple, something blue. This was the description of some of the many hairstyles that could be seen in the halls this year. Some students stayed with the regular average hairstyles. Others wanted to make their hair something that set them apart from all of the rest.

Michelle Alcala, '96, commented, "Go crazy and shave your head!"

Some people believed that the hair was an extension of the inner self. In the olden days people wore wigs as a sign of nobility. From that time to the fifties they believed that all hair should look the same. If you showed any sign of individuality you were a radical. It seemed to be that the person

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"People with wacky hairstyles have a hair raising experience."  
• Roger Emig, teacher

---

who could be noticed the most had precedence this year. Hair was definitely a status symbol and it seemed that everyone was judged whether they liked it or not. All in all, there were many different hairstyles in the halls.

The Afro seemed to be make a comeback in the past couple of years. Along with that, Jerri Curls were also pretty popular.

As Ruben Mejia, '98, said, "Go with the curls!" It seemed that the quest to turn back time to the sixties flourished in all ways.

Hair coloring also seemed to be very prominent among these bold students who wanted to make a statement. Some of the more popular colors were; black, blue, pink, and red. Some students had their hair professionally dyed, but most do-it-yourselfers just bought it at the corner drug store.

Hair length was another one of the determining factors of the hairstyle. Some liked to have their head shaved, while others grew their hair long. Some even grew their hair long and shaved most of the hair underneath. It all depended on how wacky they wanted to go.

"People with wacky hairstyles have a hair raising experience," boasted Roger Emig the choir and synthesizer teacher.

Hairstyles  
are the  
completion  
of the  
total  
image.  
They  
express  
emotions  
that can  
not be  
expressed  
with  
words.

AMY  
HOWLAND OPENS  
HER LOCKER  
DURING A  
PASSING PERIOD.  
SHE HAS JUST  
ONE OF THE  
MANY UNIQUE  
HAIRSTYLES SEEN  
IN THE HALLS.

KEVIN NEWTON,  
PLAYING THE  
PART OF BURT  
JEFFERSON, IS  
DENIED A STORY  
FOR HIS  
NEWSPAPER BY  
MR.  
WHITESIDES,  
JASON REED.

# Playin' The Man

By:  
Kevin Newton &  
Tricia Cantrell

Students endured the hardships of working in the little theater, but they adapted to the challenge and grew closer because of it. A talented cast came to be like a family as they practiced in the close quarters before their performances.

What did you get when you mixed a world reknown radio personality who was marooned in a small town by a hip injury, his assistant fwho fell in love with the local newspaper editor, a crackpot doctor who didn't know what he was doing, hundreds of calls from influential people around the world, a cockroach farm, frequent visits by celebrities, and a psychopathic killer? The hit comedy, "The Man Who Came To Dinner" of course.

The plot of the play concerned Mr. Sheridan Whiteside, Jason Reed, '96, who visited Mr. Stanley, Josh Christoff, '98, and his family, Laurie Megyesi and Cara Colon, both '97. While there he fell on the stairs and was staying there until he was able to walk. He wreaked havoc on the family while staying in the Stanley home.

Having limited practice space, was a challenge for director Mark Owens and the cast, but they adjusted to working in the small theater. "Fiddler on the Roof" which was being presented by the Ross Community Theater held its rehearsals and stored its equipment in the auditorium. With cooperation between casts, crews, and directors of both productions, things went remarkably well considering the circumstances.

"We have so much talent in so small a place," said Kevin Newton, '96, who played Burt Jefferson, a news reporter who fell in love with Whiteside's assistant Maggie, played by Deanna Price, '97.

Owens said that the cast was extremely talented and cooperative. They were also considered to have a good reputation in the community with many of the cast members having appeared in different community productions.

Jason Reed explained, "It's really great working here; we're one big family."

Finally the production was able to move into the auditorium for the November 11 performance for the Student Government State Convention. Performances were on November 17 and 18.

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"It's really great working here, we're one big family."

• Jason Reed, '96

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ANDY CRANE,  
PLAYING THE  
PART OF BEVERLY  
CARLTON,  
SHOWS JUST  
HOW SUAVE AND  
SOPHISTICATED  
HE IS.

ALL OF THE  
TOWNSPEOPLE  
HOVER AROUND  
"SHERRY"  
GLEEFULLY  
AWAITING A  
TIDBIT OF  
WISDOM.  
INSTEAD THEY  
RECEIVED A RU  
COMMENT.

KEVIN NEWTON  
BELTS OUT  
"YOU'VE GOT  
TO BE TAUGHT"  
AS TOM CRANE  
LOOKS ON. THE  
SONG EXPLAINS  
THAT PEOPLE ARE  
NOT BORN WITH  
PREJUDICE; IT'S  
SOMETHING THEY  
LEARN.



CARA COLON  
TELLS TOM  
CRANE THAT SHE  
CANNOT MARRY  
HIM. LATER SHE  
REALIZES THAT  
SHE CANNOT  
LIVE WITHOUT  
HIM WHEN SHE  
THINKS THAT SHE  
HAS LOST HIM  
FOREVER.



ANDY CRANE  
SINGS "HONEY  
BUN" WHILE  
DANCING IN HIS  
GRASS SKIRT  
AND COCONUT  
BRA WITH A  
CHORUS OF  
NURSE DANCERS.





# Paradise And Prejudice

By: Kevin Newton

What do you think of when you hear the term "South Pacific"? You probably think of beautiful white beaches, sunny days, the cool breeze blowing in between the palm trees, clear blue water as far as you can see, and the sound of the waves washing up on the shore. You would probably never think of war and servicemen stuck on an island with the only communication being infrequent mail from home.

That is the basic story line of the musical "South Pacific." But that is just the lighter side of the theme. There is also the major theme of prejudice. Throughout the story two different instances of people trying to deal with prejudices are evident.

Emile, who is played by Tom Crane, '98, is a French planter who lives on one of the islands. "It is really great being in a production like this," he comments enthusiastically. He is in love with Nellie, a nurse stationed on a nearby island

who is played by Cara Colton, '97. Nellie, is a down home girl and suffers from prejudice when she finds out that Emile has two Polynesian children from a late Polynesian wife. It is really difficult for her to overcome this prejudice but in the end she does when she thinks he is going to be killed in the war.

---

"It is really great being  
in a production like  
this!"

• Tom Crane, '98

---

JESSICA  
ANDERSON  
DANCES TO THE  
SONG "HAPPY  
TALK" FOR  
KEVIN NEWTON  
AND HARRIETTE  
KELLY WHO  
PLAYS BLOODY  
MARY. BLOODY  
MARY WANTS  
LT. CABLE TO  
MARRY HER  
BEAUTIFUL  
DAUGHTER.

Joe Cable, played by Kevin Newton, '96, falls in love with a Tonkenise girl who lives on Bali Hi, a mystical island that is off limits to all of the servicemen except officers. It is off limits because the French planters have their young daughters on the island. The Tonkenise girl Liat, who is played by Jessica Anderson, '97, is actually Bloody Mary's daughter. Bloody Mary, played by Harriette Kelly, '96, is the local trader and is always trying to sell something to somebody. Cable suffers from prejudice when Bloody Mary tells him that he must marry Liat if he expects to be with her. He loves her, but he just can not compel himself to marry her.

Does his sound like a soap opera yet? That is just the beginning of the entire prejudice storyline. Along with this, there is the whimsical side of the musical. From Billis, played by Andy Crane, '96, a serviceman who dances on stage in a grass skirt and a coconut bra, to all of the servicemen singing "There Is Nothing Like A Dame" the comedy keeps on coming.

This musical was one of the biggest and hardest productions that the Drama Club has ever produced. If it was not for all of the hard work and dedication of the cast and director Mark Owens, such a difficult musical would never have been possible.

WHEN YOU  
COMBINE A  
BUSY BODY  
NAVY BOY,  
A SEXY  
LIEUTENANT,  
A STRANGE  
ISLAND  
TRADER,  
AND A  
FRENCHMAN  
IN LOVE  
WITH A NAVY  
NURSE  
TROUBLE IS  
BOUND TO  
HAPPEN.

# No Place Like Home

By: Sarah Burt

Staying at home can sometimes be hectic, but it can also be a time to just sit back and relax. That is if you're ever at home.

Home was supposed to be a place of safety and security. But most students at MHS weren't home enough to know anything about it. So when students were home, what was it like? What did they do? Well, most students at MHS were very involved in extra-curricular activities. So home was a place that they were only familiar with on weekends if they were not out with their friends.

So what did they do when they were at home? Sleeping was a really popular home activity. Sleep-

ing was relaxing and it just felt great. Eating was another excellent activity. Where else could students eat anything and everything they wanted for free!

Rachel Price, '96, stated, "I have two sisters and a brother, so it is really busy." That seemed to be a very popular saying.

Most high school students were always on the run. On the weekend when the students weren't running they were probably found doing Saturday shopping at the mall, or going out to eat. But during the week a lot of students could be found doing their homework, or talking on the phone. Relaxing seemed to be the unanimous at-home activity. Watching TV was another at-home thing. Sitting back in front of that tube just letting time fly by. Curled up with that warm fuzzy blanket watching the newest episodes of *Friends* or *ER* just letting it all hang out.

So when at home and just chillin' out remember all of the time that this activity was impossible and absorb it all. Because these kinds of times didn't come around all the time, especially not for an MHS student.

---

"I have two sisters and a brother, so it is really busy."

• Rachel Price, '96

---

SARAH PAGEL  
AND HER SISTER  
MELISSA WASH  
THE DISHES  
AFTER A MEAL.  
MANY FAMILIES  
SHARE CHORES  
AT HOME.





*JOE FOSTER GIVES SISTER MARYGRACE A HAND WITH HER HOMEWORK. THIS IS ONE ADVANTAGE TO HAVING BROTHERS AND SISTERS.*



*KRYSTAL RENEHAN TAKES A LOOK AT SISTER LISA'S HOMEWORK. BROTHERS AND SISTERS CAN BE A BIG HELP WHEN SEARCHING FOR ERRORS.*

# Finishing First

WINNING ISN'T EVERYTHING, BUT EFFORT IS. THE FANS, THE TEAMS, THE COACHES ARE ALL PART OF THE MEMORIES THAT GO ALONG WITH HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS. THE COLD NIGHTS, THE GAMES, THE "YOU GOT SWATTED" YEARS, THE SLAM OF THE GLOVE INTO THE COOK, THE

ER OF THE

AND ESPECIALLY THE CRACK OF THE BAT AT OUR PIRATE BASEBALL TEAM, **SECOND IN THE STATE.** ALL OF

SO, SO MANY SOUNDS OF SPORTS WILL LIVE ON IN THE

THE MEMORIES OF THE STUDENTS, ESPECIALLY THE **ATHLETES** WHO MADE IT ALL

THE **FRIENDSHIPS** THAT ARE FORGOTTEN AND OFF


THE PLAYING FIELD, THE **REALITIES** THAT ARE

LEFT BEHIND, THE WANTS THAT ARE EXCHANGED

BETWEEN US, SEEM IMPORTANT NOW BUT WILL MEAN NOTHING IN THE FUTURE. THE

**JOY** OF A VICTORY IS UNFORGETTABLE, BUT SO IS THE UNRELENTING PAIN OF A DEFEAT. YOU WIN SOME, YOU LOSE SOME, BUT WHAT'S IMPORTANT IS THAT WE GAVE IT

AND THAT **FINISH FIRST**



DORIN DERICO AND MATT  
SIECKER WERE A MAJOR  
PART OF THE PIRATE LINE.  
THE BULL DOGS





# Scoreboard

	Pirates	Opponents		Pirates	Opponents
Crown Point	7	10	Andrean	57	7
Chesterton	34	7	Hobart	27	34
Portage	21	27	LaPorte	27	7
Michigan City	13	19	Valparaiso	19	14
Valparaiso	15	7	Crown Point	7	34





DEFENSIVE  
END NIGEL  
WALTON LINES  
UP AGAINST A  
CHESTERTON  
LINEMAN. THE  
PIRATES  
DEFEATED THE  
TROJANS 34-  
7.



QUARTERBACK  
CRAIG  
DEMAREE  
PREPARES FOR  
THE SNAP IN THE  
SECTIONAL  
GAME WITH THE  
CROWN POINT  
BULLDOGS. THE  
TEAM OPENED  
THE SEASON  
WITH A LOSS TO  
THE DOGS AT  
THE HOOSIER  
DOME AND  
ENDED THE  
SEASON THE  
SAME WAY IN  
DEMAREE  
STADIUM.  
INSPIRE OF  
PROBLEMS WITH  
THE DOGS, THE  
TEAM NEARLY  
SURPRISED LAST  
YEAR'S STATE  
RUNNER-UP,  
PORTAGE.

Beginning the  
year without  
six starters,  
the Pirates  
proved they  
had the  
power to beat  
the 13th  
ranked  
Valparaiso  
Vikings twice

# Never Give Up

**I**t started in the Dome and ended at home. That's what the Pirates' season was like. The Bucs started the season off with a loss in the Hoosier Dome in Indianapolis against the Duneland Conference rival Crown Point Bulldogs.

Chris DeMure, '96, said that "playing in the Dome was a good experience, but I got hurt because of it."

The Pirates were bombarded this season with injuries left and right. That was one factor why they were only 5-5.

The biggest wins of the season were against the Valparaiso Vikings, once when the Vikes were ranked thirteenth and the second of those victories in sectional play.

This year's biggest disappointments for the Bucs were losses to Crown Point and the overtime loss to Portage, who advanced into State competition.

"When we tied Portage to put us in overtime it was great, but I was disappointed when we lost," commented quarterback Craig Demaree, '98.

This year's captains were Marino Stath, Chris DeMure, and Matt Siecker, all '96. Siecker was voted Most Valuable Player. Although the Pirates had a tough season, they never gave up, and proved that they had what it took to keep up with the best of them.



MARINO STATH  
EVADES A TACKLE  
IN THE SECTIONAL  
GAME WITH  
CROWN POINT.  
ALTHOUGH THE  
TEAM WAS  
DEFEATED THE  
SENIORS HAD ONE  
LAST CHANCE TO  
PLAY FOR THE  
HOME CROWD.

Justin  
Kissinger

# Aces at State

Pirate tennis captures their fifth consecutive Sectional Championship and sends their Number 1 doubles team to state

The boys tennis team served up a great season, and proved it by sending the number 1 doubles team of Josh Larson, '96, and Joe Moore, '97, to the State Finals. "Joe and Josh played fantastic. They compliment each other well. I could always count on them for a win," Coach Dave Zimmerman said.

"Every match this season was a dog fight for us. Everyone played with a lot of heart. I think the activities we did in the pre-season helped bring the team closer together as a unit," Zimmerman commented.

T.J. Stochel, '97, voted most valuable player of the team, played number one singles for the Pirate's and contributed to their wins by his consistent play. "He added a lot to his game which made him one of the areas best players," Zimmerman shared.

Jimmy Metros and Ryan Brown, both '96, shared the number two spot throughout the season. Brown played the spot during Sectional time. "Ryan is the most athletic person on the team. He is fast and powerful which is a threat to his opponents," added Zimmerman.

Jeremy McClain, '98 owned the spot at three singles. "Jeremy is a tough competitor. He was voted most improved player of the team. He plays with a lot of intensity and determination," Zimmerman said.

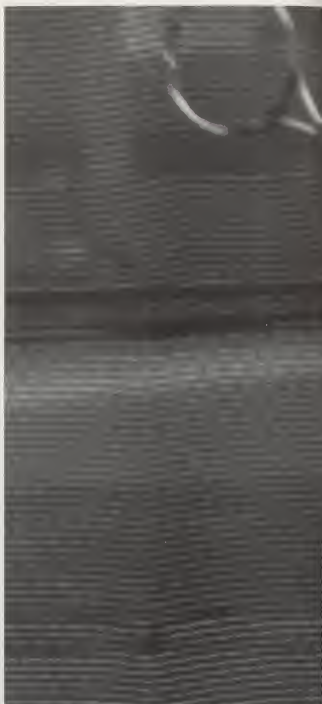
Around Sectionals, second doubles consisted of Jimmy Metros, '96 and Nester Rivera, '98. "Nes is a feisty player. He has great speed and covers the court well. Jimmy is very talented. They both picked each other up when they were down."

"We worked together as a whole. If one of us wanted to do something crazy, then the rest of the team was behind that person all of the way. That team unity really helped us feel that 'team' atmosphere," Metros commented.

The team finished their season with a record of 16-5. The Pirate's also captured their fifth straight Sectional Championship.

JIMMY METROS WEARS A STOCKING HAT FOR WARMTH. COOL WEATHER WAS A PART OF THIS YEAR'S SEASON.

T.J. STOCHEL SEES A HURLING TOWARD RETURN. DURING PRACTICE TEAM MEMBERS VOLLEY WITH EACH OTHER TO GET USED TO HITTING ALL KINDS OF SHOTS.

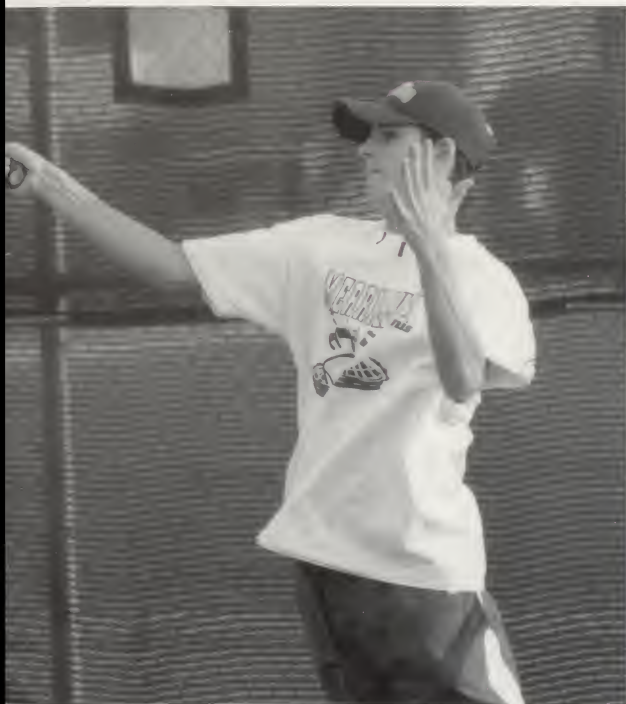


Tania  
Prough



# Scoreboard

	Pirates	Opponents		Pirates	Opponents
Highland	4	1	Andean	3	2
Clark	5	0	Lake Central	5	0
Elkhart Central	4	1	Michigan City	3	2
Valparaiso	1	4	Lowell	5	0
Chesterton	4	1	Munster	1	4
Hobart	5	0	Andean	4	1
Valparaiso	1	4	Roosevelt	5	0
LaPorte	5	0	Hobart	4	1
Portage	1	4	Michigan City	4	1
Griffith	4	1	Portage	1	4



JOSH LARSON FIRES A SHOT AT HIS OPPONENT. LARSON AND HIS DOUBLES PARTNER JOE MOORE TRAVELED TO INDIANAPOLIS FOR THE STATE COMPETITION. THIS WAS THE SECOND YEAR MEMBERS OF THE TENNIS TEAM QUALIFIED FOR THE STATE FINALS.

# Scoreboard

	Pirates	Opponents
Lowell	6	1
Laporte	1	2
Chesterton	3	6
Valparaiso	1	0
Bishop Noll	2	1
E.C. Central	3	2
Michigan City	9	1
Lake Central	0	4
Crown Point	N/A	
Munster	1	2
Hobart	1	1
Griffith	1	2
Morton	N/A	
Andrean	3	2
Sectionals	2	3

ANGEL  
ZAMARRON TOES  
THE BALL UP THE  
FIELD DURING AN  
AFTER SCHOOL  
GAME. THE  
WEATHER WAS  
LIKE A EXTRA  
MAN ON THE  
FIELD.

CHRIS  
CELESKI STEALS  
THE BALL AWAY  
FROM AN  
OPPOSING  
PLAYER. THE  
SEASON WAS A  
SERIES OF UPS  
AND DOWNS  
THIS YEAR.



AN  
UNIDENTIFIED  
PIRATE PLAYER  
LOOKS FOR A  
TEAMMATE TO  
PASS THE BALL  
OFF TO.





The Bucs had a tough season and faced many difficulties, but many of the players learned not to give up on your dreams

# Taking Some Chances

**Y**ou win some; you lose some. Unfortunately, the boys soccer team lost quite a few. But they didn't lose them all.

For instance they were down by two and came back to beat Andean 3-2. This was the high point in the season. Even coach Tim Thompson "expected us to do much better." The team finished below 500 with a record of 6-9-1.

Chris Dimitroff, '97, had a season high of 17 goals and made All-Conference for a third straight year. Dimitroff also felt that some players didn't receive the credit they deserved.

Hank Pimentel, '96, concurred that the team "had a lot of talent," but they played as individuals, not as a team.

Ben Jarvis, '96, agreed about the inconsistency of the team's playing and added that "we would have had a more positive season if we would have had a more positive coach." He provided as an example Thompson's cancellation of practice after their loss to Crown Point during 40-degree, rainy weather.

"There was a breakdown in understanding," Thompson replied. Mike Tyrikos, '96, confirmed that there was a lack of communication between Thompson and the team.

In spite of all the conflicts, they were able to play as a team once more and beat 12th ranked Valparaiso 1-0. What made that game so surprising was that Steve Kavois, '98, stepped up and took the place of Jarvis, who was injured.

Lack of communication is one thing, and determination is another. The love of the game kept the team together, and they took some chances along the way.

Melissa  
Polonczyk

MIKE TYRIKOS BRINGS THE BALL DOWN FIELD HOPING FOR A GOAL AGAINST A STATE RANKED VALPARAISO TEAM. THE WIN OVER THE TWELFTH RANKED VIKINGS WAS ONE OF THE HIGH POINTS OF THE SEASON.

# Right on Target

Girls soccer entered its second season with a new coach. The team has had to make a few adjustments to make it work

**T**he girls soccer team seems to always be pumped up and taking aim. Whether it was stealing the ball or scoring a goal they were always on target.

"Soccer is a great sport because it's so aggressive and if you mess up, you have so many chances to make it up unlike softball or any other sport," said Rebekah Jusko, '97. The teams goals were to beat Lake Central in Sectionals, and go on to Regionals.

They did win the Conference, but they were unable to achieve winning Sectionals. According to Stephanie Peek and Andrea Simpson, both '96, the team did pretty well.

"The team works together very well because everyone on the team has a special talent. Therefore, putting all the talents together everything works out great," said Peek. With this great teamwork, they were able to have a great season.

"Soccer is a sport where you can release all your anger by kicking the ball and on the opponents players," replied Simpson. With all the running and kicking that soccer players did, surely that was true.

The worst part about soccer seemed to be conditioning. Getting prepared for the season practicing in the blazing hot sun was anything but fun for the girls.

After all that hard work though, they said that the coaches made it really fun for them, so it really didn't bother them that much. Fun and success seemed to the girls soccer team to have hit the bullseye.

Anna  
Papalazarou

PLAYERS TRY  
TO LINE UP A  
SHOT AT THE  
GOAL AS AN  
OPPONENT  
ATTEMPTS TO  
STEAL THE BALL.



# Scoreboard

Laporte	8	2
Chesterion	2	0
Valparaiso	3	2
Griffith	10	1
Michigan City	18	1
Porter Twnshp.	12	1
Crown Point	10	2
Munster	2	0
Bishop Noll	5	1
Andean	5	0
Hobart	3	0
Portage	0	0
Lake Central	1	2
Culver Girls Ac.	4	2
Sectionals	3	1
Sectionals	4	1
Sectionals	1	3

REBEKAH JUSKO  
PLAYS DEFENSE  
AS SHE WAITS  
FOR A CHANCE  
TO STEAL THE  
BALL.

REBEKAH JUSKO  
MOVES THE BALL  
TOWARD THE  
GOAL. THE  
TEAM HAD A  
GOOD SEASON  
ENDING WITH A  
13-1 RECORD.

# Scoreboard

	Pirates	Opponents		Pirates	Opponents
Lowell	236	262	Valparaiso	191	185
Kankakee Valley	201	224	Andrean	206	208
Marquette	204	228	Hobart		forfeit
Chesterton	199	272	Hanover Central	197	204
LaPorte	220	239	Portage	196	188
Munster	216	208	Lake Central	208	207
Bishop Noll	213	275	Sectionals		395
Michigan City	210	212	Regionals		415
Crown Point	201	190			



THE PRACTICE GREEN GOT PLENTY OF USE. JAMIE DOBIS CHIPS ONE OF MANY BALLS ONTO THE GREEN DURING PRACTICE.

CAROLINA PROCTER CHIPS ONTO THE GREEN DURING A MATCH HELD AT SUMMERTREE GOLF COURSE.







KELLY MEERKS  
CHIPS A BALL  
OUT OF A SAND  
TRAP AT  
SUMMERTREE  
GOLF COURSE.  
A HOME MEET  
WAS A LUXURY  
FOR THE TEAM  
THAT TRAVELED  
ALL OVER  
NORTHWEST  
INDIANA FOR  
THEIR SEASON.



AMY SOPCZAK  
DIGS HER WAY  
OUT OF A TRAP.  
SOPCZAK AND  
TRICIA  
CANTRELL WERE  
THE ONLY  
SENIOR  
MEMBERS OF  
THE TEAM, AND  
HAD TO  
PROVIDE  
LEADERSHIP FOR  
THE ENTIRE  
GROUP, WHICH  
CONSISTED OF  
MANY FIRST-  
TIME PLAYERS.

With  
Sectionals and  
Regionals  
being at least  
a 30 minute  
drive away,  
the Girls Golf  
team takes  
their traveling  
and competi-  
tion very  
seriously

# On the Road Again

**M**uch like the old country song says, the girls golf team remained on the road for much of the season. Journeying to far off places to compete in conference and non-conference matches became a specialty of the team, Coach Mike Hackett, his wife, Vicki, and assistant coach Jim Dobis.

"In the past, we used to play the name game on the way to the meets," said Tricia Cantrell, '96. "This year, most of us did our homework while we were on the road."

Despite their successful season by the school's standards, some of the team members felt that they could have done just a bit better.

"I could have been in the 40's consistently, but we didn't practice much in the summer," said Jamie Dobis, '98. "It took a while to get down where I should have been."

The team journeyed to far off places and distant lands, or at least as far as the borders of Northwest Indiana. Sectionals were in DeMotte, and Regionals were even farther, in LaPorte, which is about an hour's drive away.

As far as the traveling goes, there will always be more matches in far off places, and there are always more highways for the golf team to travel.

Kelli  
Moore

Senior leadership proved worthwhile as the Pirates took on the Duneland Athletic Conference for an incredibly competitive season

# Strength is in Numbers

**T**he key word of the Boys Cross Country team: strength. This time it was in numbers. The captains this year were Andy Belush and Dave Kamano, both '96. The team began conditioning at the beginning of the summer, never tiring through the sweltering heat of June, July, and August.

The opponents were some of the toughest this season. Five of eight team members were ranked in the top twenty at one point or another during the season. The highlight of the season for the guys was making it to Regionals. The guys this year were very proud of their accomplishments.

"We are going to have a really strong team the next two or three years," commented Kamano. Kamano was the only four year letter winner this season.

The Most Valuable Player award went to Tony James, '98. James and the rest of the underclass power promise successful future seasons. Tom Aliff, '97, Matt Johnston, '98, Eugene Vivo, and Brad Balcerak, both '97, have the strength to take the Pirates to outstanding levels.

Coach Greg Pierson proved his outstanding coaching abilities even more so this year. The three strong seniors the team lost to graduation were Belush, Kamano, and Aaron Malerich, also '96.

The team ran about 750 miles per person per season. That was a lot of ground that Merrillville had to conquer.

"Cross country pushed me to my limit and taught me self discipline," said Kamano. Cross country was definitely a sport that pushed athletes to their limit, and made the Pirates realize that there was indeed strength in numbers.

**Becky Paine**

TOM ALIFF  
RUNS SEPARATE  
FROM THE PACK  
AT ONE OF THE  
HOME MEETS.  
MOST SUPPORT  
COMES FROM  
PARENTS, BUT A  
FEW OTHERS  
ATTEND THE MEETS



# Scoreboard

	Pirates	Opponents
MHS Invitational	17	49
Andean	15	50
Portage	49	15
Hobart	19	47
Michigan City	44	19
New Prairie Invite	11th of 23	
Laporte	15	50
Valparaiso	50	15

	Pirates	Opponents
Highland Invite	2nd	of 21
Crown Point	32	32
Chesterion	50	17
Hobart Invite	3rd	of 17
Clark Invite	4th	of 16
DAC Meet	N/A	
Sectionals	2nd	
Regionals	7th	



THE LEADERS OF THE PACK, TOM ALIFF, JOHN HARMS, AND EUGENE VIVO SET THE PACE FOR THE REST OF THE MHS AND MICHIGAN CITY CROSS COUNTRY TEAMS. ALIFF, HARMS, AND VIVO WERE THREE OF THE TOP RUNNERS.

DAVID KAMANO STAYS WITH THE PACK AS HE RUNS ON MERRILLVILLE'S HOME COURSE IN A MEET WITH MICHIGAN CITY.

# Scoreboard

SCORES WERE NOT AVAILABLE FOR GIRLS CROSS  
COUNTRY.

MARIANNE  
MAJ IS IN THE  
LEAD DURING  
ONE OF THE  
HOME MEETS AT  
HIDDEN LAKE  
PARK.

JESSICA  
VARGAS PUSHES  
ONWARD  
DURING ONE OF  
THE HOME  
MEETS.

VARGAS WAS  
ONE OF MANY  
RETURNING  
UNDERCLASSMEN  
LETTERWINNERS.





SONJA MITCHELL HAS A STRONG WILL TO CONTINUE THE ARDUOUS TASK OF RUNNING THE COURSE. MITCHELL AND MARIANNE MAJ SERVED AS PART OF THE MOTIVATING FORCE OF THE TEAM.

State Semi-Finals are hard, but more so without a coach. The Girls Cross Country Team faced almost insurmountable odds, but gave it their best shot

# With or Without You

Cross country at Merrillville has become an important sport. This year's girls team was very powerful and had a lot of endurance. Without a coach toward the end of the season, the team had to prove just how strong they were.

Marianne Maj, '96, thought that this year's team worked well together and got to be really close. That helped the team to move into victories. All around the season was good and the team put much time and practice. Chesterson and Portage were the toughest opponents this year.

Cross Country was not only a sport, but also a chance to get to know other runners from all around. Because of the absence of a coach toward the end of the year, the team had to pull tight and help Jill Harms, '96, to prepare for a run at Semi-State with out a coach.

Awards were given to the team for an excellent season and also individual ones including, Michelle Hogan, '97, Karyn Pahl, '98 and Jessica Vargas, '97.

Marianne Maj, '96, felt that her last year running was successful and an excellent way to end. " Since it was my last season, I tried to work hard throughout all the practices, and I tried to keep the team focused and motivated throughout the season."

Overall, the team pulled through with an excellent season even though they were left alone and feeling unwanted by their coach.

Sarah  
Burt



With a second place finish in Sectionals and many individual best times, the girls swimmers and divers look to the future

# In the Fast Lane

The girls swimming team raced through the competition all season.

Stephanie Nicolini, '97 commented, "We had a lot of best times for a lot of swimmers and best scores for divers this year."

The relatively young team finished with a record of 5-8, but placed second behind Crown Point in the sectional meet. While no one on the team went down to state, the Pirates still had a positive meet full of runner up events and best times.

Nicolini, Stephanie Badylak, '98, and diver Elena Malave, '98 all finished second in their events. The relay of Nicolini, Badylak, Erin Roth, '98, and April Pieroni, '97, also came in second.

Nicolini continued, "I did achieve some of my goals of best times, but fell short of my ultimate goal of making state."

The team should be able to bounce back next year as they will only lose one swimmer to graduation, captain Megan Pendley. With most of the young swimmers doing well at sectionals they should be able to improve enough next year to send some athletes to state.

Nicolini explained that other top performances were shown by Jennifer Sanders and Corrin Argenta, both '98, and the relay of Sanders, Tina Shikitis, '98, Stacey Brown, '97, and Jodi Reeves, '99.

This year the Pirates fielded an extremely small team. But, according to Nicolini, "They learned to change and accept the change."

The team needed to have several swimmers step up and take over the roles of departed seniors. Nicolini finished, "I feel the main thing we learned was to turn it up when it was most important."

The team will have a good shot at winning Sectionals next season as Crown Point, unlike the Pirates, will lose several swimmers to graduation.

Chris  
Sikich

DIVER MORGAN GRAY  
GLANCES AT THE  
WATER BEFORE  
ENTERING. GRAY  
HAS BEEN A PART  
OF THE TEAM  
SINCE HER  
FRESHMAN YEAR.

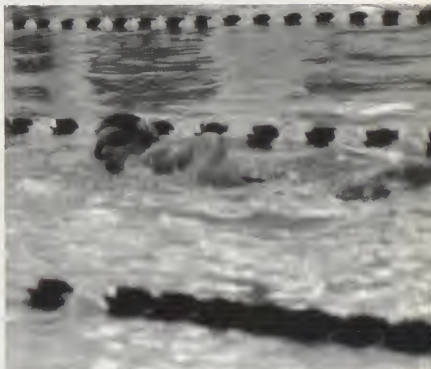




A SWIMMER  
CATCHES HER  
BREATH BEFORE  
FINISHING THE  
LAST LEG OF HER  
EVENT.



AT PRACTICE AN  
MHS SWIMMER  
TAKES IT EASY.  
HOWEVER, THE  
TEAM SPENT  
LONG HOURS  
PRACTICING. IF  
SOMEONE  
WANTED TO BE  
ON THE TEAM  
THEY HAD TO BE  
WILLING TO BE AT  
THE SCHOOL  
BEFORE THE SUN  
CAME UP.



# Scoreboard

Andean 15-8, 15-7  
 Brownstown 15-5, 15-6  
 Whiting 15-4, 15-6  
 Lake Station 15-4, 15-5  
 Griffith 15-4, 15-5  
 Lake Central 15-12, 15-8  
 Hobart 12-15, 15-8, 15-0  
 Lowell 15-8, 15-7  
 Calumet 15-4, 15-2  
 Portage 15-9, 15-6  
 Bishop Noll 15-9, 15-8

Chesterton 15-11, 15-4  
 Morton 15-2, 15-6  
 Crown Point 11-5, 15-11, 15-10  
 Valparaiso 15-10, 15-12  
 Michigan City 3-15, 10-15  
 Hebron 15-6, 15-2  
 LaPorte 11-15, 11-15  
 Crown Point 15-11, 15-9  
 Hobart 15-6, 15-5  
 Lake Station 15-3, 15-3  
 Andean 15-11, 15-9

RONDA PRICE  
 GOES UP FOR A  
 BLOCK AS HER  
 TEAMMATES  
 WATCH.

ALEXIA STI  
 SERVES UP A SP  
 AND GIVES H  
 SERVE BACK  
 THE PRINCE





THE JUNIOR  
VARSITY SQUAD  
USES TEAMWORK  
ON THE RETURN.  
MANY  
PROMISING  
ATHLETES ARE  
COMING OUT OF  
JV INTO VARSITY  
NEXT SEASON.

Breaking school records, and beating second ranked Mishawaka, not once but twice, led the lady Pirates volleyball team to a well deserved season.

# Bump, Set, Spike!

What can be better than beating a team twice? How about breaking the schools record for the most number of wins for the volleyball season? Led by four captains DeDe Riddle, Ronda and Rachel Price, all of '96, and Leslie Malerich, '97, the Lady Bucs were able to do that. This season the Bucs were 31-6, beating ranked Mishawaka twice.

Rachel Price, middle blocker, said, "The team did well during the season with only a few let downs. Unfortunately one of those was during the Regionals." During Regionals they lost to Munster which ended their season.

This was the most disappointing moment of the season for the captains and probably the team.

The team will lose three captains, two hitters and their setter, next year because of graduation. Dede Riddle will definitely miss the team next year because she said they were like sisters and always looked out for each other.

She also added that the team will be just as good next year because they have a very talented bench and can handle anything. The future Buc starters will have a promising season next year and hope to go to State or at least Semi-State.

Samantha  
Parker

After getting off to a slow start, the Bucs played tough and won the Duneland Conference title as well as their Sectional

# In Your Face

Who would have thought that a team that began their season with a 3-4 record would come back to become a driving force in the Duneland Athletic Conference?

Coach Jim East and his team never gave up inspite of their rocky start. Instead they got on track midseason. Following a disappointing 46-70 trouncing by Penn, the Bucs rolled on to win 13 straight games.

They placed first in the Duneland Conference and won their Sectional before falling to a strong team from Gary Wallace 64-73 in Regionals leaving the team with a 18-6 record for the season.

One of the more memorable games of the season pitted Davis versus Davis - Jamaal Davis, '97 against East Chicago Central's 6'8" Willie Davis. Jamaal Davis scored a game high 25 points and pulled down 10 rebounds while holding Willie Davis to 12 points and 11 rebounds. The Bucs took charge during the third quarter allowing them to go into the fourth quarter up 43-34. They went on to win the game 62-57.

Davis along with Travis Schmidt, '96, went on to form a the backbone of the team. Other key players included Jovan Blacknell, Donte Price, and Steve Vlahos, all '97, and Cliff Hughes and William Phillips, both '96.

Kelli  
Moore

JAMAAL DAVIS  
GOES UP FOR  
THE BASKET AS  
THE PIRATES  
STOMPED THE  
LAKE CENTRAL  
INDIANS.  
80-54. BOTH  
DAVIS AND  
TRAVIS SCHMIDT  
LATER WENT ON  
TO BE  
IMPORTANT  
PLAYERS FOR THE  
TEAM.





# Scoreboard

	Pirates	Opponents		Pirates	Opponents
Munster	64	58	Crown Point	46	43
South Bend Riley	62	64	Hammond Gavit	75	39
Bishop Noll	60	69	LaPorte	53	50
Andrean	66	76	Michigan City	60	48
Valparaiso	68	53	Portage	56	42
Gary Roosevelt	54	62	EC Central	62	57
McCutcheon	63	39	Highland	64	54
Benton Central	49	37	Lowell	51	38
Hobart	69	35	Hanover Central	79	62
Penn	46	70	River Forest	93	54
Chesterton	65	50	Crown Point	72	62
Lake Central	80	54	Gary Wallace	64	73



CLIFF HUGHES  
AND WILLIAM  
PHILLIPS  
CHARGE OUT  
ON THE COURT  
AS THE PIRATES'  
SCHOOL SONG  
BEGINS PLAYING.

BOTH JAMAAL  
DAVIS AND  
TRAVIS SCHMIDT  
BLOCK A LAKE  
CENTRAL  
GUARD FROM  
MAKING A 2-  
POINTER. THE  
PAIR WORKED  
EFFECTIVELY  
TOGETHER.



# Scoreboard

	Pirates	Opponents		Pirates	Opponents
Roosevelt	67	50	Mishawaka	46	64
E.C. Central	48	59	Crown Point	41	59
Lake Central	27	43	Hobart	47	52
Laporte	39	37	Hammond High	49	32
Chesteron	39	36	Lew Wallace	59	53
Andrean	45	39	Valparaiso	41	59
Portage	52	43	Munster	65	41
Highland	55	38	Calumet	43	47
Benton Central	52	57	Michigan City	62	64
North Judson	45	42	Sectionals (C.P.)	42	49



RACHEL PRICE  
GOES UP FOR A  
JUMP BALL AS A  
FELLOW  
TEAMMATE AND  
SISTER RONDA  
WAIT FOR THE  
CHANCE TO  
GRAB THE BALL.

PLAYING KEEP-  
AWAY,  
CAROLINA  
PROCTER DARTS  
ACROSS THE  
COURT AND  
TOWARDS THE  
BASKET IN  
ATTEMPT TO  
SCORE.





The girls  
basketball  
team has got  
it all figured  
out. The  
more you  
think, the  
better you  
play

# Think before you act

The Lady Pirates strived to do their best this season, and attributed much of their success to teamwork. Working together great as a team, they tried to beat last year's record and win Sectionals but were unsuccessful in meeting that goal. The ladies had a tough time winning with the Lady Vikings. A team that made it all the way to state this year. They did feel that they had some great games though.

Ronda Price '96, said that "Portage was our best game because everyone contributed so we could win."

Working hard was something they did a lot at practice. Practicing layups, ball handling, and defensive drills, scrimmages for conditioning purposes and to do their best during games paid off. Sometimes they did have trouble working together to win the big games though.

"Thinking smart before making a decision in basketball is important in order for the team to be able to work together and also for the individual player," said Rachel Price '96. Rachel and her twin sister Ronda were well known as the "Twin Towers" of the Lady Bucs. They both played the forward position. Their height contributed a lot to the team just as all the others contributed to the team in their own special way.

The team seemed to think that even though there were times when they could have done better, they were a very cooperative team, and thought out every move.

Anna  
Papalozarou

BLOCKING A  
CALUMET  
GUARD, RACHEL  
PRICE LOOKS  
TOWARD HER  
OPPONENT AND  
WAITS TO MOVE  
ON THE  
OFFENSE. PRICE  
WAS AMONG  
THE VETERANS  
ON A TEAM THAT  
HAD MANY  
PLAYERS  
RETURNING.

Dying hair  
and shaving  
heads rallied  
the Boys  
Swim team  
to give it  
their all

# Rallying Bucs get a boost

Green hair? Shaved heads? Too bad Dennis Rodman wasn't around. This year the swimming team improved its record from last year to 3-10. They finished their season in Sectionals finishing fourth.

The captains of this swim year were Chris Sikich, '97, Matt Pavlovich, '98, and Ali Santos, '98.

This season for the Pirates was a little disappointing because the Bucs wanted to finish fourth in the Duneland Conference, but finished seventh instead.

Sikich said that "it could have gone better. We had a chance to win three more duals, but we blew it at the end."

He was disappointed too because he came down with strep throat three times after Christmas. That was the biggest hurt on the Bucs.

For Pavlovich, the most disappointing aspect of the season was a tough loss against Crown Point.

"(Merrillville) and Crown Point were very close the whole meet. It came down to the last event, the 400 Free Relay. It was a guessing game, and they won it. All of our swimmers were fired up and we swam our best times, but it just wasn't good enough," Pavlovich commented.

Their most embarrassing moment was when the team got crushed by team they could have beaten easily. Pavlovich said, "It was their pool. We knew we were the better team. However, everybody was tired and didn't really care. We were good enough to beat them, but they defeated us handily."

The Pirates hope next year they will improve and maybe even go to State. They have a lot of their strong swimmers returning and have a good chance of going far.

Justin  
Kissenger

THE WHISTLE  
BLOWS AND THE  
SWIMMER  
STARTS. A SEMI-  
SUCCESSFUL  
SEASON HAS THE  
BUCS LOOKING  
FOR A CLEAN  
SLATE NEXT FALL.  
IN RECENT YEARS  
NUMBERS HAVE  
BEEN AS BIG A  
FOE AS THEIR  
OPPONENTS.  
THIS PROBLEM IS  
IMPROVING AS  
MORE SWIMMERS  
GO OUT FOR THE  
TEAM.



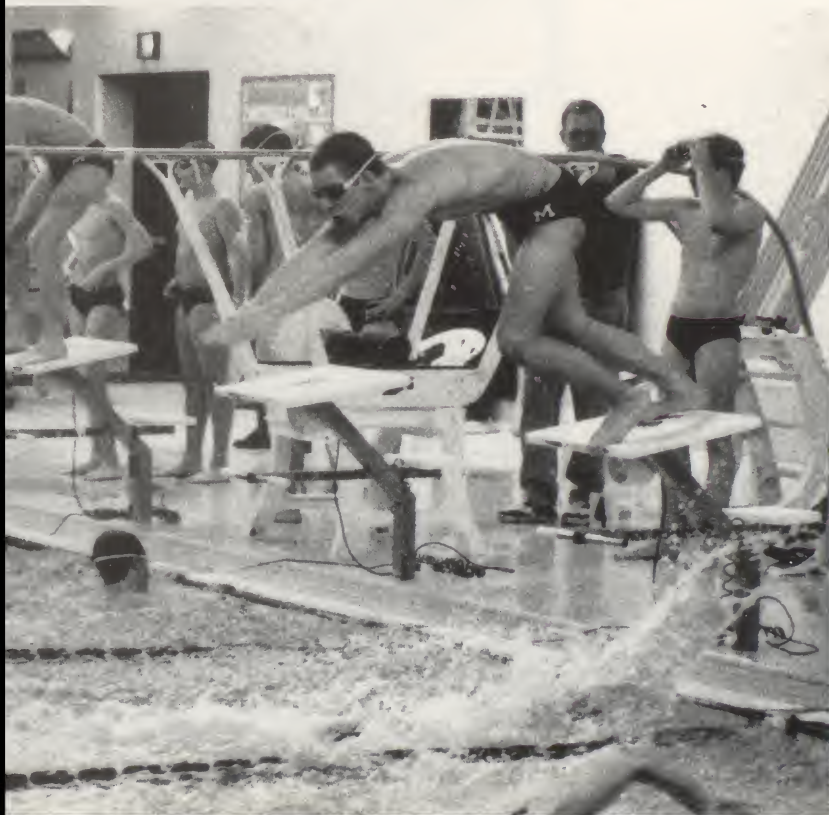


# Scoreboard

GETTING  
CONGRATULATED  
BY HIS  
TEAMMATE,  
AARON  
MALERICH  
COMPLETES THE  
LAST LEG OF HIS  
RACE.  
MALERICH AND  
ALL HIS SIBLINGS  
ARE ACTIVE IN  
SCHOOL SPORTS.

	Pirates	Opponents
<b>Portage</b>	115	71
<b>Munster Relays</b>	N/A	
<b>Hobart</b>	117	68
<b>Rensselaer</b>	22	22
<b>Crown Point</b>	22	22
<b>Lake Central</b>	22	22
<b>Valparaiso</b>	22	22
<b>Michigan City</b>	22	22
<b>Munster</b>	22	22

	Pirates	Opponents
<b>LaPorte</b>	22	22
<b>Highland</b>	22	22
<b>Chersterton</b>	22	22
<b>DAC Meet</b>	22	22
<b>Gavit</b>	22	22
<b>Lowell</b>	22	22
<b>JV Invite</b>	22	22
<b>Sectionals</b>	22	22
<b>Sectionals</b>	22	22

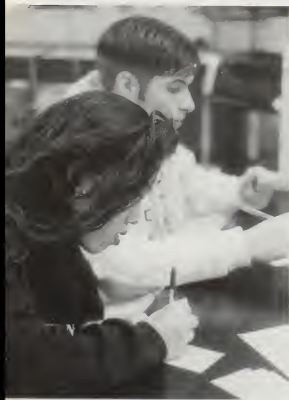




# Scoreboard

	Pirates	Opponents
Benton Central	45	21
Lawrence North	22	37
Mishawaka	29	35
Lafayette Harrison	55	12
Edgewood	56	9
Anderson Highland	57	19
Beech Grove	15	44
Triton Central	48	19
Valparaiso	49	21
North Newton	68	9
Calumet	41	24
Penn	28	39
Portage	30	40
Crown Point	44	21
Chesterton	36	27
Michigan City	66	12
Hobart	48	25
LaPorte	47	20
Portage	32	28

MUCH WORK GOES ON BEHIND THE SCENES TO HELP SMOOTH OUT ANY PROBLEMS. WRESTLING MANAGERS JENNIFER GABRIEL AND MARC VASSALO HELP COACH CHRIS JOLL MAKE OUT CARDS BEFORE THE TOURNEY.



SEMI-STATE QUALIFIER  
JASON TABOR RIDES HIS  
OPPONENT AS HE GLANCES  
AT THE CLOCK TO SEE HOW  
MUCH TIME IS LEFT IN THE  
PERIOD.





RYAN VALENTINE LOOKS TO COACH CHRIS JOLL FOR SOME ENCOURAGEMENT AND ADVICE IN BETWEEN PERIODS OF HIS SEMI-STATE MATCH. HE WAS ONE OF SIX WRESTLERS TO QUALIFY FOR SEMI-STATE WHICH IS A NEW SCHOOL RECORD.



"THEY BREAKDANCE TOO?" NO, BUT THEY DO PRACTICE HARD. COACH ART ROGERS CHECKS OUT HIS GUYS FOR ANY IMPERFECT MOVES.



MONTPELL PACE TURNS HIS OPPONENT TO HIS BACK PREPARING FOR A PIN. PACE ALSO QUALIFIED FOR SEMI-STATE.

Long practices and tough matches gave the Pirates the strength to go on to State

# Hard to Match

Thud, smack, stick! No, not a bad Batman series but what you would have heard if you were at one of the Pirate's wrestling meets.

The beginning of the season started off well. The only teams to beat the Pirates early on were the Mishawaka Cavemen and Portage Indians. Despite the fact of some tough opponents, we had a few big guns of our own. Jared Tabor and Jeremy Schwandt, both '96, went down to represent Merrillville in the State Wrestling Finals in Market Square Arena in Indianapolis.

At the tournament, Tabor placed sixth in the 119 pound weight class and Schwandt placed fifth in the 189 pound weight class. Rewinding a bit when the wrestling squad held their Thanksgiving Invitionals the squad went 2-2. During the tourney, Montell Pace, '97, injured the arm of two opposing wrestlers in the process of the tournament.

The sounds heard at wrestling meets are hard to match, and they all lead to victories for the Pirates.

Don  
DeLong



Despite injuries, the Pirates carried on, being cheered on by the injured as they went

# The Greatest Prize

**T**he number of wins weren't really impressive, and the losses were many. But what did they matter when instead of showing trophies and medals, you'd displayed the greatest prize of all? It was something that could not be given nor taken away. Something that had to come from inside. What eight girls demonstrated was the courage and strength to stand by what they loved through the good times and the bad.

Throughout the season, the gymnastics team faced enormous obstacles. If it wasn't Lori Wotell's sprained ankles or Kelley Jenkins rolled ankles, it was Elena Malave's broken bones. Injuries prevailed and could have destroyed the team if it weren't for such leaders as Tina Guzik and Amy Sopczak, both '96. Before the season began Guzik said, "Amy and I, as captains, will lead our team with dignity, in either victory or defeat." And they did.

With a record of 3-8, Coach Diane Roberts replied, "This is the first year ever that we had to learn to lose. If it wasn't for the injuries, a state championship could have been in reach."

At the start of the season, Sopczak, the gymnast who could have broken all previous records, was already out with a back injury. She watched as her team hurt and healed.

Malave, '98, had reconstructive surgery on her knee and leg last year. She was able to compete this year only to break an ankle after two meets. Again she faced a decision. To rehab and try again or to quit. Malave overcame the obstacles and returned to compete in Sectionals.

Throughout the devastating season, there was still a glimmer of hope. "Frick and Frack" or Keri Willison and Alicia DeLeon, both '98, along with Lyndi Tegman, '97, were asked to improve their techniques in order to cover for their injured teammates. After weeks of work, they all succeeded.

"Over the years I have learned that gymnastics is not just about winning and losing. It's the moments and the memories that count," Guzik concluded.

Melissa  
Polonczyk

WORKING  
TOWARD A  
PERFECT  
ROUTINE, TINA  
GUZIK CON-  
CENTRATES ON  
THE BALANCE  
BEAM. GUZIK  
AND AMY  
SOPCZAK WERE  
THE TEAM'S  
CAPTAINS.





# Scoreboard

	Pirates	Opponents
Michigan City	95.40	83.35
Lowell	99.20	90.30
Hobart	98.30	100.45
Ft. Wayne Con.	N/A	
Laporte	96.50	101.60
Portage	96.30	109.30
Lafayette Jeff	N/A	
Chesterton	99.40	106.90
Valparaiso	99.10	110.90
Crown Point	101.00	96.00

A LEAP OF FAITH  
LAND KERRI WILLISON  
ON THE BALANCE  
BEAM SAFELY. MOST  
OF HER TEAMMATES  
SUFFERED INJURIES,  
INCLUDING CAPTAIN  
AMY SOPCZAK.



#1 SINGLES  
PLAYER,  
KIMBERLY  
ONOFF  
FOLLOWS  
THROUGH WITH  
HER FOREHAND  
AFTER HITTING A  
SHOT. ONOFF  
WAS A CO-  
CAPTAIN AND  
WAS VOTED ALL-  
CONFERENCE  
FOR THE 1996  
SEASON.





It was a rebuilding year for the Lady Pirates. They pulled through to finish their season with an 11-4 record and a second place finish in the Duneland Conference.

# Building for the Future

Call it what you want but Coach Dave Zimmerman will remember the '96 girls' tennis team as a memorable one. Finishing second in the Duneland Conference, the Lady Pirates pulled together to finish with an 11-4 record.

"With the loss of six seniors and two JV players, the coaching staff knew that the team would be inexperienced. We offered private lessons, indoor court time, an aerobic's class, and a six week conditioning program to improve the girls' both physically and mentally," Zimmerman commented.

From there emerged three freshman Kristina Gross, Danielle Moore, and Demi Stath. They were given the chance to prove themselves by challenging upperclassmen, and prevailed by taking over three varsity spots.

The turning point in the season was beating number eight ranked LaPorte. "As a team, it made us realize we had the potential to go to semi-state." Unfortunately the Bucs lost in the first round of semi-finals to Valpo in a close match that ended in a heart-breaking third set loss.

"Overall I was extremely pleased with the team's performance. We had a unique mixture of youth and senior leadership that helped mold a very competitive team," Zimmerman closed.

DEBBIE KINGS  
AND TINA GUZIK  
CONGRATULATE  
EACH OTHER  
AFTER A  
WINNING A  
MATCH. KINGS  
AND GUZIK  
PLAYED #2  
DOUBLES ON  
AND OFF  
THROUGHOUT  
THE SEASON.



Samantha  
Parker

STEPHANIE  
VALSE GETS SET  
TO RETURN  
ANYTHING THAT  
COMES HER  
WAY. VALSE  
WAS VOTED ALL-  
CONFERENCE  
AND PLAYED  
#1 DOUBLES.

Making it  
No. 11,  
the  
softball  
team  
captures  
both the  
Sectional  
and DAC  
titles

# Taking the Duneland again

**D**uneland Conference Champs, Sectional Champs- It's been a successful season for the 1996 softball team. With the record 18-5, the coaches were pleased with the accomplishments made during the regular season.

At the beginning of the season the coaches looked forward to seeing what this young team could accomplish. By the end of the season they were quite convinced this team could handle any pressures they would face. Assistant coach Pat Mulloy said, "Considering the core of the team is mostly sophomores and juniors, they performed beyond what was reasonably expected."

Along with the pitching success of Leslie Malerich, '98, the Pirates had some success on offense. "Out of the park homeruns came frequently", according to Kelly Webster, '96. Amy Sopczak, '96, Carolina Procter, '97, Stacy Bish, '97, and Linda Mysliwiec '96 all took free strolls around the bases after hitting their homeruns.

The team's success continued into the tournament with the team becoming the 1996 Sectional Champs. The team gained this title with close wins over Andrean (2-0) and Griffith (2-0).

ACE PITCHER  
LESLIE MALERICH  
PUT TOGETHER AN  
IMPRESSIVE STRING  
OF WINS.  
MALERICH  
TOSSES TO BALL  
TO ONE OF HER  
TEAMMATES IN A  
PRE-INNING  
WARM-UP

Jennifer  
Draper

ANOTHER INNING  
DOWN.  
MEMBERS OF THE  
LADIES SOFTBALL  
TEAM STROLL INTO  
THE DUGOUT  
AFTER FINISHING  
THE FELDING HALF  
OF THE INNING.





COUNTDOWN  
TO GAME TIME.  
AS PLAYERS SIT,  
THE FIELD CREW  
GOES AROUND  
THE INFIELD  
PUTTING DOWN  
THE WHITE BASE  
LINE.

TAKING A SWING,  
CAROLINA  
PROCTER  
KNOCKS THE BALL  
INTO LEFT FIELD.  
THE TEAM TOOK  
THE DUNELAND  
TITLE FOR THE  
ELEVENTH  
CONSECUTIVE  
TIME.

Both track and field events fell in place early in the season. The team had a strong year sending competitors to state

# Trying to be First

Stride after stride, day after day, Coach Ken Coudret's boys track team worked to be the best they could be. In spite of the rainy spring which forced them to practice in the fieldhouse or run meets under less than the best conditions, the team finished the season with an overall record of 34-8.

The team did well in both the track and field events during the regular season. Strong competitors were shot putter Chris DeMure, '96, who only lost once during the season with a best of 57'1". Jason Miller, '96 was high jumping well and pole vaulters Joe Foster and Chris Muvceski, both '96, both vaulted 13'6". All three relay teams were doing well, as was hurdler Tom Aliff and sprinter Ma'Rion Anderson, both '97.

They finished 4-3 against conference foe, and came in fourth at the Duneland Athletic Conference Meet. Conference champions were Aliff in the 300 meter low hurdles and the 1600 meter relay team of Aliff, Eugene Vivo, Lehman Best, and Anderson, all '97.

The team rolled on to Sectionals where they placed second. Individually, DeMure placed first in shot put.

At Regionals the team placed fifth. However, DeMure placed second in shot put Foster placed fourth in pole vault. The 400 meter relay team of Marino Stath, '96; Rashad Tucker, '98; Miller, and Anderson placed third.

A disappointed Anderson was injured before the state meet and was unable to compete. The 400 meter relay team of Stath, Tucker, Miller, and Brad Balcerak, '97, went on to place 10th in the state. Foster placed ninth in pole vault and DeMure placed eighth in shot put.

Scott  
Mytyk

LEHMAN BEST  
RUNS HIS LEG OF  
THE 1600  
METER RELAY.  
OTHER MEMBERS  
OF THE RELAY  
TEAM WHICH  
WON FIRST  
PLACE AT THE  
DAC MEET  
ARE TOM ALIFF,  
EUGENE VIVO,  
AND MA'RION  
ANDERSON.



# Scoreboard

	Pirates	Opponents		Pirates	Opponents
Bishop Noll	93	46	LaPorte	68.5	27
Ham. Clark	93	28	Highland Invt.	1st	
Portage	51	81	Chesterlon	72.5	59
Michigan City	62	93	Crown Point	72.5	35.5
Hobart	62	12	DAC Meet	4th	
Wallace Invt.	2nd		Sectional	2nd	
Valparaiso	68.5	71.5	Regional	5th	



MIKE FILAN'S FACE SHOWS HIS EXHAUSTION AS HE NEARS THE FINISH LINE. HE WAS A MEMBER OF THE 3200 METER RELAY TEAM.



A GRIMACE SHOWS ON THE FACE OF THIS LONG JUMPER AS HE TRIES FOR HIS BEST JUMP.



A mediocre season and the weather didn't prevent a number of Lady Pirates from breaking school records

# Running in Stride

Get ready! Get set! And the starter's pistol fired signalling the beginning of another race. Whether it was the 100, 400, 3200, or even one of the relays, Pirate runners kicked for the finish line.

The team had to fight the rainy spring weather as well as their competitors. The dismal weather meant that more than one meet was run in less than the best track conditions.

The Lady Pirates competed in often forgotten field events, such as shot put, high jump, and long jump as well as running events.

The team ended up with a 6-7 overall record. Their efforts left them with a 3-4 record in the Duneland Athletic Conference. They placed fifth in the conference meet.

Nevertheless, several school records fell. Jill Theobald, '97, ran a 48.1 in the 300 meter hurdles. Maria Toledo, '99, ran 3200 meters in just 12:13.0 for her school record. The 3200 meter relay team of Jill Harms, '96; Ruby Long, '97; Lisa Modglin, '98; and Toledo also ran 3200 meters in a record time of 10:27.0.

Although the team only placed fourth in Sectionals, Toledo was the Sectional champion in the 3200 meter run. In her first year on the team, the freshman sat some goals to beat in her remaining years.

At the season's end, Coach Joe Atria named Marianne Maj, '96, Most Valuable. Sonya Mitchell, '96, was named the Outstanding Competitor in Running Events while Valerie Pratscher, '98, was the Outstanding Competitor in Field Events. Ruby Long received the award for Mental Attitude.

John  
Becker

MANY PEOPLE FORGET THAT TRACK CONSISTS OF FIELD EVENTS AS WELL AS RUNNING.

MARIANNE MAJ WORKS TO STAY WITH THE PACK IN THE 3200 METER RUN. SHE WAS NAMED MOST VALUABLE AT THE SPRING AWARDS BANQUET.



# First Class Line Up



# FALL SPORTS



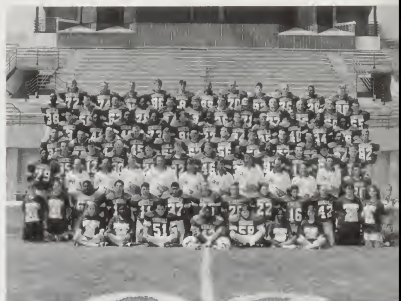
**BOYS CROSS COUNTRY** Row 1: Teddy Umphress, Anthony James, Orley Dossiemma, Eugene Vivo, Mike Filan. Row 2: Brett Romeo, Andy Belush, Matt Johnston, Aaron Malerich, Tom Aliff, John Harms, Dave Kamano.



**GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY** Row 1: Joyce Herrera, Angela Bertolo, Karyn Pahl, Marianne Maj. Row 2: Manager Clinique Robinson, Michelle Hogan, Jessica Vargas, Jill Harms, Sonya Mitchell, Maria Toledo, Coach Albert Snowton.



**FRESHMAN FOOTBALL** Row 1: David Huber, Larry Guterrez, Ryan Bailey, Mike Mitchell, Brian Kolodej, Adam Antiewicz, Jason School. Row 2: Andy Draper, Jonathan Ollech, Brian Damion, Patrick Lile, Dan Schiele, Josh Frank, Eric Stewart, Robert Wojcik. Row 3: Anthony Azcona, Eugene Wilson, David Rodriguez, Coach Chris Krutz, Coach Tom Peller, Coach Tripp Clark, Antwan Spencer, Jeff Rosenwinkel, Tom Mauman. Row 4: Brian Wellesat, Mike Sell, Steve Passaloukos, Delrick Williams, Iam Rause, Chuck Smoljan, John Eastlee, Nick Yack, Paul Navarro. Row 5: Kell McGuens, Billy Dimouski, Kevin Strehler, Jayson Culp, David Everett, Mike Megyesi.



**VARSITY AND JUNIOR VARSITY FOOTBALL** Row 1: Amber Martin, Trelles Evert, Steve Lopez, Arwon Whitehead, Mike Supar, Twanna Allen, Jamie Simpson. Row 2: Aubrey Kellay, Jeff Harms, Jacques Harris, Jesse Hernandez, Josh Francis, Jason Corlano, Kevin Pinaux, Mike Stath, Nik Ruzavsky, Eddie Romo, Jason Lacey, Marsha Belmonte, Christi Pierce. Row 3: Chris Brown, Rob Moore, Sherm Isak, Ken Couderc, Asik, Jeff Nelson, Rick Wimmer, Randy Steuber, Mike Krutz, Dennis Hamilton, Jim Johnston, Clint Henry. Row 4: Halporczy, Eric Herbert, Jeremiah Rodriguez, Justin Gray, Paul Moody, Frank Halcars, Joe Giordano, Zoran Despotovic, Angelo Howard, Aaron Steele. Row 5: Mario Stath, Naum Donecki, Matt Secker, Jeremy Schwandt, Joe Bann, Jesus Villareal, Rob Eaton, Ryan Valerise, Brian Chapman, Brian Schelder, Monte Pace, J.J. Nonisidore. Row 6: Sam Berkman, Dan Harvey, Billy Smith, Damien Spencer, Mike Rothgeb, Durrey Lawrence, Brian Bratcher, Brad Polster, Michael Hampton, Melton Anderson, Ron Bolden. Row 7: Terence Boyd, Eric Skage, Pete Bilewski, Doris Dard, David Downs, Mike Robbins, Shaun Newman, David Castree, Jason Novakovich, Chris DeMure, Richard Malden, Per Naumovski. Row 8: Greg Mallory, Ryan Francis, Jason Miller, Andy Byrom, Aaron Shetton, Jeff Thames, Kevin Allen, Brennan Seydel, Corey West, Nigel Watson, Brian Peety.

# FALL SPORTS



**GIRLS GOLF** Row 1: Jenny Grubb, Jamie Dobis, Amanda Sovich, Kira Scheub, Coach Mike Hackett, Kelly Meeks, Tricia Cantrell, Amy Sopczak, Carolina Proctor, Nicole Nelson.



**JUNIOR VARSITY POM-PONS** Row 1: DeAnna Shonk, Amanda Buda, Annette Harness, Emily Barnett. Row 2: Betsy Lucas, Dana Levitt, Melissa Sonaty, Sandy Damjanoski. Row 3: Ann Marie Bronowski, Nicole Rakich, Jenny Chung, Gina Bartolomeo. Coach Nancy Packovski.



**FLAG CORPS** Row 1: Alicia Baric, Lynn Duplaga, Erica Hall, Tiffanie Coe. Row 2: Marie Kaminsky, Shannon Scott, Melissa Glorioso, Jenny Price, Pam Ruschak. Row 3: Jamie Levitt, Deanna Price, Melissa Stefanski, Christina Peterson. Row 4: Shannon Kagle, Jennings.



**POM-PONS** Row 1: Christina Gargano, Kristy Trock. Row 2: Elisabeth Black, Riannon Ramos, Diana Hammer, Kelly Keilman, Krissy Malast, Cathy Gallimore. Row 3: Melissa Clark, Bonnie McFarland, Kathy Bartochowski, Patty Underwood, Milena Maric, Marygrace Foster. Coach: Marianne Oates.



# FALL SPORTS



**JUNIOR VARSITY BOYS SOCCER** Row 1: Paul Suleski, Chris Modrowski, Steve Kavois, Steve Rivera, Sergio Medellin, Jeff Fairbairn. Row 2: Coach Mike Monoveloski, Joel Sanchez, Jon Talbot, Nick Gonzalez, Mike Stanivuk, Nick Wright, Chris Celeski, Adam Vadas, Coach Tim Thompson.



**JUNIOR VARSITY GIRLS SOCCER** Row 1: Coach Luis Dela Vega, , , April Nichols, Angela Wahlman. Row 2: , Jamie Bainbridge, , Kari Fravel, , , Mary Johnson, , Kerri Camery.



**VARSITY BOYS SOCCER** Row 1: Steve Rivera, Kavyon Karimi, Johnny Miller, Ben Jarvis, Steve Kavois, Mike Radiceski, Sergio Medellin, Jeff Fairbairn, Angel Zammarron. Row 2: Coach Mike Manoveloski, Mike Tyrikos, Hank Pimental, Jake Gross, Robert Zimnawoda, Josh Gross, Bill Fairbairn, Danny Ristevski, Chris Dimitroff, Freddie Buck, Coach Tim Thompson.



**VARSITY GIRLS SOCCER** Row 1: Kate O'Sullivan, Jill Matusik, Lena Cole, Elizabeth Todoroska, Rebekah Jusko, April Connelly Jennifer Roames. Row 2: Coach Luis DelaVega, Kari Forster, Natalie Conner, Andrea Simpson, Alexandra Zestanakis, Michelle Vasileski, Aubrey Kelly, Mandy Sopko, Asst. Coacj Tammy Deel.



# FALL SPORTS



**GIRLS SWIMMING AND DIVING** Row 1: Coach Mary Simmons, Yvonne Noszczyński, Stephanie Badylak, Tina Shikitus, Coach Sean McCarthy. Row 2: Brandy Dravet, Jennifer Sanders, Jody Reeves, Elena Malave, Erin Lindsey, Natsha Via, Beth Scheffer. Row 3: Coach Bryon Angerman, Bryn Pendley, Jamie Modrak, Katie Wilson, Maegan Krisko, Corrin Argenta.



**FRESHMAN VOLLEYBALL** Row 1: Jessica Wright, Betsy Lucas, Kristina Gros, Coach Amy Beckham, Jennifer Webster, Marriko Anderson, Cathy Snelson. Row 2: Coach Lori Covaciu, Sarah Plutkas, Amanda Moloney, Kami West, Kim Lux, Deme Stath, Milissa Kelsey, Coach Colleen Collins.



**BOYS TENNIS** Row 1: Valantis Petsalis, Mike Igarta, Nester Rivera, Adrian Ramirez, Mike Mersat, Manager Alec Stiles, Neil Lux, Jim Metros. Row 2: Coach Swanson, John Garcia, Kevin Emmett, Jack DeHaven, Ryan Brown, Joe Moore, Sean McConnell, Jeremy McClain, T.J. Stochel, Coach Dave Zimmerman, Coach Levinson.



**JUNIOR VARSITY VOLLEYBALL** Row 1: Christina Navarro, Natalie Nimon, Ashley Dobis, Coach Amy Beckham, Tina Owen, Grace Escamilla, Liz Navarro. Row 2: Coach Colleen Collins, Deme Stath, Elena Bielawski, Valerie Pratscher, Christy Walsh, Kris Burke, Shannon Wells, Erin Price, Coach Lori Covaciu.

# WINTER SPORTS



**VARSITY VOLLEYBALL** Row 1: Wava Riddle, Coach Colleen Collins, Coach Lori Covaciu, Dede Riddle. Row 2: Sharon Segvich, Deanna Goodman, Sarah Frink, Beth Zak. Row 3: Samantha Dimoff, Leslie Malerich. Row 4: Rachel Price, Coach Amy Beckham, Ronda Price.



**JUNIOR VARSITY BOYS BASKETBALL** Row 1: Scott Underwood, Craig Demaree, Jason Corriano, Josh Francis, DeMonte Millard. Row 2: Quinton Allen, Damiyon Lee, Brian Hatfield, Mike Gilliam, James Harris, P.J. Monteleone, Coach Randy Stelter.



**FRESHMAN BOYS BASKETBALL** Row 1: Robert Dowdy, Keith White, Eugene Wilson, Derrick Williams, Chuck Smoljan, Antawn Spencer, Andy Draper, Jason Marcus, Greg Price. Row 2: Coach Tom Peller, Mike Sell, Nick Yack, Mark Taylor, Ben Ameling, Joe Parsanko, Billy Dimovski, Mike Megysi, Paul Navarro, Steve Cvetkovski, Coach Jim Vermillion.



**VARSITY BOYS BASKETBALL** Row 1: Tyrone Brown, Jovan Blacknell, Neal Fedak, Donte Price, Cliff Hughes, Rick Baskin, Mgr. Scott Mytyk. Row 2: Coach Jim East, Coach Mike Hackett, William Phillips, Travis Schmidt, Jamal Davis, Stanko Gligic, Steve Vlahos.

# WINTER SPORTS



**FRESHMAN GIRLS BASKETBALL** Row 1: Lynn Jones, Linda Martinez, Simone Henderson, Justine Wojcik, Melissa Squyers. Row 2: Coach, Sarah Magurany, Traci Kleminski, Sara Martinez, Katie Mandich.



**VARSITY GIRLS BASKETBALL** Row 1: Dede Riddle, Carolina Proctor, Shannon Wells, Kristine Burke, Stephanie Valse, Deanna Goodman. Row 2: LaTonzia Adams, Christy Walsh, Nakia Clemons, Ronda Price, Rachel Price, Valerie Pratscher, Jill Matusik.



**JUNIOR VARSITY GIRLS BASKETBALL** Row 1: Pamela Niksch, Erin Price, Shannon Wells, Juli Kljajch, Kelly Preuss. Row 2: Kelly McShane, Lisa Renehan, Nakia Clemons, Vicky Bish, Christy Walsh, Jill Matusik, LaTonzia Adams.



**FRESHMAN CHEERLEADERS** Row 1: Katie Taylor, Jeni Pedrosa. Row 2: Elena Gonzalez, Jenny Grubb, Jennifer Mola. Row 3: Kira Jo Schueb, Paula Lopes.

# WINTER SPORTS



**JUNIOR VARSITY CHEERLEADERS** Row 1: Deanna Gonzalez, Angela DeSouza. Row 2: Lori Wotell, Jessica Reed, Christin Cirrincione, Gina Fastero, Ann Wojtowicz, Ashley Dobis.



**GYMNASTICS** Row 1: Kari Willison, Lori Wotell, Alicia DeLeon. Row 2: Coach Diane Roberts, Kelly Jenkins, Tina Guzik, Lyndi Tegtman, Amy Sopczak, Elena Malave, Coach Roberts.



**VARSITY CHEERLEADERS** Row 1: April Pratscher, Missy McCory, Barbara Hoagland. Row 2: Joshua Sessions, Andy Belush, Randy Collins, Jason Dzunda. Row 3: LaToi Hughes, Amber Braden, Christy Oh, Kimberly Pero, Katie Shapkaroff.



**BOYS SWIMMING AND DIVING** Row 1: Jacob Tellado, Adam Rosaves. Row 2: Bob Verbik, Coach Bryon Angerman, Chris Sikich, John Rooda, Aaron Malerich, Matt Pavlovich, J.P. Zunno, Doug Reeves, Greg Denham. Row 2: John Richards, Adrian Ramirez, Jeremy Rick, Hrisovalent Petsalis, Ben Jarvis, Kevin Emmett, John Garcia, Matt Cooke, Bill Santelik, Brandon Hoffman, Coach Sean McCarthy.



# WINTER SPORTS



**JUNIOR VARSITY WRESTLING** Row 1: Dan Schiefer, Eric Stewart, Jason Shoot, Ryan Bailey, Damien Whiteside, Marco Pagan, Al Guillen. Row 2: James Haley, Anthony Azcona, Bill Jackomis, Joe Gorgano, Eric Beale, Steve Lopez, Mike Hunke. Row 3: Coach Rassbach, Nick Farabaugh, Joe Konefall, Dave Everett, Jacques Harris, Jon Talbot, Don DeLong, Jayson Culp, Coach Artie Rogers.



**VARSITY WRESTLING** Row 1: Gabe Skoufezis, Sergio Medellin, Steve Rivera, Ted Umphress, Jared Tabor, Mike Villanueva, Jason Tabor, Nick Marchuk, Antwone Whiteside. Row 2: Jay Lachy, Montell Pace, Paul Kozubal, Aaron Shelton, Jeremy Schwandt, Ryan Valentine, Rick Mezo, David Harvey, Coach Chris Joll. Not Pictured: Ryan Francis, Dan Spencer.



**FRESHMAN BASEBALL** Row 1: Alonzo Paul, Joey Klippel, Ryan Fasel, Tom Mauman, Danny Schiefer, Jonathan Kwiatkowski, David DeLeon. Row 2: Coach Greg Pierson, Adam Ankevitch, Adam Ama, Nick Yack, David Everett. Keith Gouwens, Chuck Moljan, Coach.



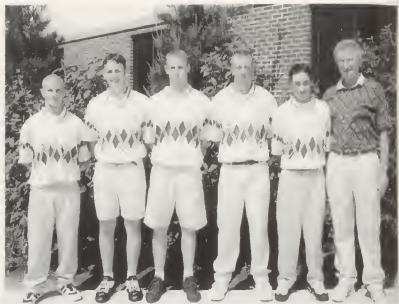
**JUNIOR VARSITY BASEBALL** Row 1: Matt Aubin, Jake Santeramo, Craig Demaree, Eric Xidis, Josh Francis, Jeff Nelson. Row 2: Keith Wilson, Aaron Longacre, Greg Mish, Coach Ken Gaelic, Sam Berkman, Mike Curtis, Quenton Allen.



# SPRING SPORTS



**VARSITY BOYS BASEBALL** Row 1: Joe Barker, Rich Deel, Clint Henry, Matt Brown, Rob Gutierrez, Eric Xidis, Jeff Nelson. Row 2: Coach Jeff Howard, Brian Schiefer, Mark Mazany, Brad Schulte, Matt Siecker, Joe Giordano, Coach Fenton Macke. Row 3: Coach Bill Roberts, Coach Mike Krutz, Dave Kamano, Ryan Miller, Phil Martin, Marc Bruner, Tim Little, Hank Lech.



**VARSITY BOYS GOLF** Row 1: Ryan Risselman, Frank McMullin, Matt Habrych, David Keene, Matt Warus, Coach Max Hutchison.



**VARSITY BOYS GOLF** Row 1: Denny Frizzell, Doug Reeves, Mike Anacletio, Jack DeHaven, Jeremy Trimble, P.J. Monteleone, Coach Max Hutchison.



**JUNIOR VARSITY SOFTBALL** Row 1: Melissa Squires, Kristina Navarro, Betsy Lucas, Jaime Modrak. Row 2: Coach Dale Brooks, Ashley Dobis, Justine Wocjick, Jennifer Webster, Erin Price, Kelly Preuss, Alexia Stath, Jil Matusik. Row 3: Coach Jim Lucas, Ieesha Hearne, Kelly McShane, Stacey Brooks, Nicole Skura, Jeanine Visuue, Coach Diane Roberts. Head Coach Randy Stelter.

# SPRING SPORTS



**VARSITY SOFTBALL** Row 1: Deanna Goodman, Sarah Frink, Rebekah Jusko, Tina Owen, Heather Lohse. Row 2: Mgr. Dede Riddle, Kris Burke, Carolina Proctor, Kelly Webster, Linda Mysliwiec, Jaime Santeramo, Mgr. Courtney Yocum. Row 3: Head Coach Bob Bergeson, Coach Jim Frink, Angie Guernsey, Stacey Bish, Crissy Dickerson, Leslie Malerich, Beth Zak, Amy Soczak, Coach Mark Zak, Coach Pat Mulloy.



**GIRLS TRACK** Row 1: Debbie Anderson, Maria Toledo, Grace Escamilla, Gina Fastero, Jill Theobald, April Nichols, Rose Castillo, Kym Veal, Lisa Fesko, Rebecca Bosh, Coach Joe Atria. Row 2: Coach Brendich, Llene Beavers, April Pratscher, Marianne Maj, Megan Pendley, Sonja Mitchell, Stephanie Nicolini, Lisa Modglin, Aubrey Kelly, Nicole Hall, Heather Luedtke. Row 3: Ruby Long, Stephanie Peek, Jessica Vargas, Abbey Matlock, Jennifer Kucik, Dana Gombus, Michelle Hogan, Rose Voyd, Heather Oaks, Coach Hay. Row 4: Jackie Dienes, Shannon Houck, Angie Krummerie, Kathy Padberg, Jill Hamms, Valerie Pratscher, Ericharon Johnson, Brenda McKeethen, Lisa Renehan.



**VARSITY BOYS TRACK** Row 1: Shawn Guesyer, Sean Tomondl, Josh Frank, Al Guillen, Ali Santos, Orley Dossiera, Robert Wojcik, Luke Zedevelansky, Mike Igarla, Angel Aamaron, Ron Bolden, Eugene Vivo. Row 2: Brett Romeo, Jeff Bendine, Robert Atwood, Eric Herbert, Rick Mezo, Fred Buck, Lehman Best, Chris Mucveski, Marino Stath, Nick Ristevski, Rashad Tucker, Troy Sutton, John Harms. Row 3: Asst. Coach Louis Lopez, Chris DeMure, Brian Bratcher, Dave Kirklen, Paul Moody, Brad Balcerak, Ma'Rion Anderson, Mike Filan, Delrick Williams, Aaron Steele, Tom Aliff, Andy Belush, Head Coach Ken Coudret. Row 4: Asst. Coach Jim Johnston, Jason Simpson, Nigel Walton, Jason Miller, Kevin Albers, Chris Brown Dave Gearhart, Greg Cox, Jon Bassett, Matt Johnson, Joe Foster, Asst. Coach Jeff Clinkenbeard, Asst. Coach Mike Wells.



**GIRLS TENNIS** Row 1: Angela Bertolo, Tina Guzik, Jacquese White, Kayrn Pahl, Marikko Anderson, Angela Sadjera, Marissa VanVolkenberg. Row 2: Amanda Jacobs, Danielle Moore, Kristina Gross, Babara Hoagland, Kim Onoff, Yvonne Wosczcinski, Cheryl Emmett, Elizabeth Bobos, Demetra Stath, Nicole Nelson. Row 3: Doc Levinson, Doris Dolorich, Debbie Kings, Samantha Dimoff, Michelle Westerfield, Student Coach Joe Moore, Coach Zimmerman, Kim Lux.

Team Pictures



CK IS NO'T  
Y A TEAM  
T, IT CAN  
BE AN  
JIDUAL  
PETITION.

# Scoreboard



	Pirates	Opponents		Pirates	Opponents
Chesterlon	41	64	Hobart	28	24
Lake Central	38	82	Valparaiso	50	80
Highland	38	15	LaPorte	50	26
Griffith	81	38	Chesterlon	53.5	57
Munster	81	15	Crown Point	53.5	45.5
Crown Point	36	69	Wallace Invit.	6th	
Portage	60	63	DAC Meet	5th	
Michigan City	28	104	Sectionals	4th	



RIL  
ATSCHER  
CHES HER  
CK TO HELP  
AR THE BAR.

Bad weather got the boys golf team off to a bad start.

Many practices and even some meets fell to the storms that seemed to happen almost daily

# Rained Out Again

**T**he continuous rain brought a damper to the beginning of the boys golf team's season. The rain delayed and even postponed many practices.

Many boys tried out for the team, and Coach Max Hutchison had to determine who was capable of helping the team the most. Matt Waras, '98, helped the team tremendously. He stepped up and helped Matt Habrych and Ryan Risselman, both '96, build a team.

The team finished the season with a record of 1 and 18. The win came against Griffith. Many local teams gave the team good competition.

The team was able to qualify one member of the sectional team to the regional tournament. This member was Frank Mc Mullin, '97. He shot a 82 at Lake of the Four Seasons Golf Course. The team placed fourth out of 15 teams.

On June 7th Mc Mullin played in Regionals at Beechwood Golf Course in La Porte. After eighteen holes of play his score was a 98. He was unable to qualify for the first round of state.

Tricia  
Cantrell

MATT  
HABRYCH TAKES  
A PRACTICE  
SWING TO MAKE  
SURE HE HAS THE  
CORRECT FORM  
BEFORE HE TAKES  
THE ACTUAL  
SHOT. HABRYCH  
WAS ONE OF  
TWO SENIORS  
ON THE YOUNG  
TEAM THIS YEAR.

MATT  
WARAS  
ATTEMPTS A PUTT  
DURING A HOME  
MATCH AT  
BROADMOOR.  
HE JOINED  
SENIORS MATT  
HABRYCH AND  
RYAN  
RISSELMAN TO  
FORM THE  
NUCLEUS OF THE  
TEAM.





FRANK  
MC MULLIN  
AND RYAN  
RISSELMAN  
DISCUSS HOW  
EACH OTHER'S  
ROUND OF  
EIGHTEEN HOLES  
WENT.



FRANK  
MC MULLIN  
CHECKS IN AT  
THE SCORERS  
TABLE TO MAKE  
SURE  
EVERYTHING IS  
ADDED  
CORRECTLY  
DURING  
SECTIONALS.  
HIS SCORE  
MADE HIM THE  
ONLY MEMBER  
OF THE TEAM TO  
QUALIFY FOR  
REGIONALS.

# Scoreboard

	Pirates	Opponents		Pirates	Opponents
Boone Grove	18	0	Lowell	1	3
Hammond High	8	3	Valparaiso	4	5
EC Central	10	8	Evanston	14	4
Clark	5	8	Evanston	9	3
Crown Point	7	3	Providence	3	4
Laporte	9	8	Bishop Noll	10	0
Portage	6	1	Munster	2	1
Hobart	2	10	Munster	7	1
Chesterton	16	4	River Forest	10	0
Michigan City	8	7	Crown Point	3	1
Valparaiso	6	7	Hobart	11	8
Laporte	8	2	Andrean	3	1
Portage	8	10	Munster	7	4
Rennselaer	2	1	Boone Grove	12	1
Hobart	3	1	Lafayette Harrison	11	10
Crown Point	0	7	Logansport	5	3
Chesterton	6	5	Jasper	6	13
Michigan City	2	1			



NUMBER 20  
SLIDES IN AT  
SECOND BASE  
WITH ROOM TO  
SPARE. THE  
TEAM BEAT  
MUNSTER 7-1.

CLINT HENRY  
ROUNDS THE  
CORNER AND  
HEADS FOR  
HOME. HENRY  
WAS ONE OF 13  
SENIORS ON THE  
VARSITY TEAM.





The season  
was just  
average with  
the team  
coming from  
behind more  
than once,  
but no one  
wanted it  
to end

# Come Back Kids

The regular season was like a rollercoaster ride. Constantly up and down. The team was unable to put together more than the three consecutive wins they started with until the end. Still there were more wins than losses with the team putting together an 18-8 record.

Although the team lost to Portage 8-10, second baseman Matt Brown, '96, believed it was the best hitting game of the regular season. The team had 15 hits in their losing effort.

Overall the team gained needed confidence as the season drew to a close. Brown expressed his confidence in the team, "I've known for a long time that this team is good enough to do great things. Now it's time to go out and show everyone." This confidence proved to be prophetic.

This was an average season that saw the Bucs take third place in the Duneland Conference with a 9-5 conference record.

Coming from behind to pull out the win seemed to be a team trademark as Coach Fenton Macke dubbed the team the "Cardiac Kids." This was a trait they carried with them into post season play.

Nevertheless, the season had a plus in pitcher Phil Martin, '96. He proved to be the ace of the team taking an undefeated record into the tournament.

It almost seemed as if the team had two seasons. The regular season and the post season.

PITCHER PHIL MARTIN WAS ON THE MOUND TO GET THE TEAM INTO THE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP GAME. HIS 16-1 RECORD WAS ONE OF THE REASONS HE WAS NAMED TIMES PLAYER OF THE YEAR. COACH FENTON MACKE ALSO EARNED THE HONOR OF BEING TIMES COACH OF THE YEAR.

Jennifer  
Draper

After an average season, the baseball team surprised everyone except themselves. The dream continued all the way to the final game

# Making a State- ment

It wasn't supposed to happen. But happen it did. The Pirates played for the state championship in Bush Stadium on Saturday, June 22.

After winning their first Regional title in 15 years by defeating Munster 7-4 with a grand slam by Brad Schulte, '96, in a fog delayed game concluded just hours before Commencement, the Bucs charged into Semi-State for a rematch with Boone Grove.

The Pirates made short work of Boone Grove winning 12-1. Defending state champions Lafayette Harrison proved a much more difficult foe. After falling behind 10-4 going into the bottom of the ninth, it looked like the dream would end at Semi-State. But someone forgot to tell the team. The Pirates began to play like a team with a mission. After scoring six runs, designated hitter Clint Henry, '96, blasted a bases loaded two out single to right field winning the game. "I was just thinking fastball, fastball, and he gave it to me," Henry explained.

After waiting two hours for the game to start, the Pirates faced four time state champion Logansport. Winning pitcher Phil Martin, '96, who finished the season 16-1, won his 12th complete game 5-3. "I didn't have my greatest stuff, but it was good enough to win," Martin said.

Second baseman Matt Brown, '96, chopped the key single which put the Pirates ahead for good. "I was just looking to put it in play, maybe score a run," he remarked. It turned out to be the hit that knocked the Pirates into the state finals.

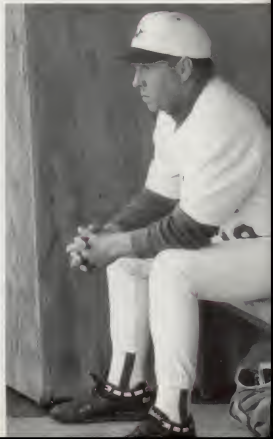
The heat and humidity took its toll, but the Pirates advanced to the state finals for the first time ever. "We had only about an hour in an air-conditioned restaurant before coming back," coach Fenton Macke said.

Unfortunately Jasper proved to be too powerful, defeating the Pirates 13-6 in the championship game. Down 7-1, the Pirates pulled to 7-6 in the fourth inning, but that was the closest they could get. Jasper scored six more runs in the seventh inning to conclude the scoring in the final game to be played in historic Bush Stadium.

The loss snapped an 11 game winning streak for the senior dominated team, many of whom had played together since Little League.

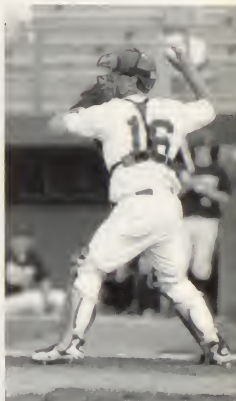
THE PIRATES CELEBRATE A VICTORY. THEY AND THEIR FANS CELEBRATED ALL THE WAY TO THE STATE FINALS.

HANK LECH WATCHES TO SEE IF THE TEAM CAN PULL OUT ANOTHER COME FROM BEHIND VICTORY. THE PIRATES CAME FROM BEHIND TO BEAT LAFAYETTE HARRISON AND LOGANSPORT, BUT THEY COULDN'T CATCH UP WITH JASPER.





CATCHER BRIAN SCHIEFER RETURNS THE BALL TO THE PITCHER. A FORMER OUTFIELDER TURNED CATCHER, SCHIEFER WAS NOMINATED FOR THE L. V. PHILLIPS MENTAL ATTITUDE AWARD IN BASEBALL.



SAFE! CLINT HENRY SLIDES HOME IN A LATE SEASON GAME. HENRY DROVE IN THE WINNING RUN IN THE SEMI-STATE CHAMPIONSHIP GAME SENDING THE BUCS INTO THE FINAL FOUR.



## Feature

Injuries  
plagued  
many sports  
teams this  
year keeping  
athletic train  
Sherm Iszak  
and his staff  
busy

# Sticks, Stones, & Broken Bones

**T**he Bucs are losing by a touchdown. Coach Rick Wimmer looks over his athletes for a good receiver as Clint Henry, '96, crosses his mind. He cringes as he sees Henry helpless on crutches out of the corner of his eye. Henry wasn't the only player on crutches. Others included Jason Simpson, Brian Schiefer, and Chris DeMure, all '96. And that was just football!

Football wasn't the only sport to lose players, at least temporarily to injuries. Tennis player Josh Larson, '96; soccer players Ben Jarvis, '96, and Jeff Fairbairn, '98; and gymnasts Amy Sopczak, '96, and Elena Malave, '98, were also among the injured.

Henry wasn't injured in football, but baseball. He twisted his leg and tore the cartilage in his knee. He was upset that he didn't get to play. "It's a lot harder than I thought. You don't know how hard it is until it happens to you. Seniors shouldn't be allowed to get hurt."

Ben Jarvis was the soccer team's goalie. He got injured when he came out for a ball and an opposing player dove into his left knee and bent it the other way. He had to sit out for four games.

The gymnastics team was also plagued with injuries. Team leader Sopczak injured her back in a car accident before the season started. Malave came back from reconstructive surgery on her knee the previous year only to break her ankle. Lori Wotell, '98, and Kelley Jenkins, '97, also suffered ankle injuries.

Many of the injuries occurred to seniors, and unfortunately they had played their last game before the end of the season. Chris DeMure, '96, who spent part of his football season on crutches explained it best, "You gotta approach every game like it's your last, you never know when it will be."

Kelli  
Moore

Athletics  
72

GYMNAST  
ELENA MALAVE  
WATCHES FROM  
HER PERCH ON  
THE BALANCE  
BEAM. AFTER  
RECONSTRUCTIVE  
SURGERY ON HER  
KNEE, SHE SPENT  
THE SUMMER  
DOING REHAB  
ONLY TO BREAK  
HER ANKLE.





BRIAN  
SCHIEFER AND  
CLINT HENRY  
RAISE THEIR  
CRUTCHES IN  
SUPPORT OF  
THE FOOTBALL  
TEAM.



CHRIS  
DEMURE HOPS  
OUT ON HIS  
CRUTCHES TO  
BE RECOG-  
NIZED ON  
PARENT'S  
NIGHT.

# REWINDing

## 1996 IN REVIEW

**R**EWIND THE TAPE. TURN BACK THE CLOCK, AND TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT THE 1995-1996 SCHOOL YEAR.

IT WAS A YEAR THAT STARTED WITH SORROW AT THE LOSS OF AN EXCEPTIONAL TEACHER AND FRIEND.

FOLLOWING THAT WE CELEBRATED AS A SCHOOL WHEN OUR PRINCIPAL, DR. DANIEL C. RAPACZ, BECAME PRESIDENT OF THE INDIANA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL PRINCIPALS.

THEN STUDENT GOVERNMENT GOT BUSY. REALLY BUSY. AS THEY PLAYED

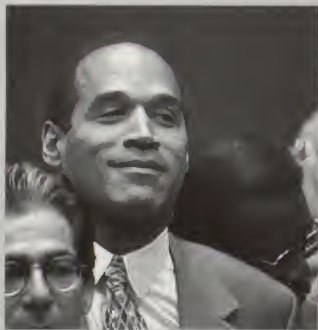
HOST TO OVER 1,400 STUDENTS AND MORE THAN 150 ADVISERS FROM ALL OVER THE STATE.

WE ROLLED INTO OPERATION PULLOVER IN THE SPRING. THIRD HOUR QUEST CLASS JOINED WITH THE MERRILLVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN A STATEWIDE TRAFFIC SAFETY CONTEST. THE FINAL RESULTS WILL BE LEARNED IN THE FALL.

FINALLY, SCHOOL STARTED AN HOUR LATE ON JUNE 4 TO ALLOW STUDENTS TO WATCH THE OLYMPIC TORCH BEING CARRIED DOWN BROADWAY.

### O. J. SIMPSON VERDICT

'If the glove don't fit, you must acquit.'



The verdict was in. It became known as the murder trial of the century and all the key players were in place, there and listening to it.

O.J. Simpson must be the luckiest man alive because the jury found him not guilty of murdering both his ex-wife Nicole Brown-Simpson and her friend Ronald Goldman. They said that the evidence was not enough to convince

them beyond a doubt that Simpson had committed the crime. After all, there was only DNA linking him to the scene among other things.

After a year spent in the slammer, Simpson, now free, was still faced with the American public, half of whom thought he should have been convicted. His reply?

The video should be in stores by Christmas time, 1996.

# techno tots *for*

It might not have made Disney's best seller list, but the Tim Allen/Tom Hanks techno trek did draw the kids into the theaters.

**B**reaking through traditional movie technology and revolutionizing the animation industry, *Toy Story* was one of the best kid's movies of the year. Actually, it seemed to be popular among viewers of all ages. *Toy Story* was the first full length computer animated movie to appear at the box office. It was also the first time that Tim Allen and Tom Hanks starred in a movie together. Tim Allen was the voice of Buzz Lightyear and Tom Hanks was the voice of Woody. It didn't take long for the movie magic to begin, before the animation actually seemed just like any other action movie. The movie was based on the idea that toys come alive when their owner is not looking. The movie follows a crisis among the toys. All in all, *Toy Story* will be one of the more memorable movies of all time.



# TOP TV SHOWS

1996

Friends  
ER

Chicago Hope  
The Late Show with  
David Letterman

Hercules  
Seinfeld

Mad About You  
90210

Malibu Shores  
Melrose Place

Simpsons  
Party of Five

Fresh Prince  
Roseanne

NYPD Blue

Married With Children  
Xena: Warrior Princess

Frasier

Kindred:

The Embraced

Home Improvement

Coach

The X Files

# all because of his *BRAVEHEART*

It's a grand world for Mel Gibson who chalks up both "Best Picture" and "Best Director" for his epic *Braveheart*.

It won him two of the most prized awards that the Academy of Motion pictures gives out.

Mel Gibson-Best Director.  
*Braveheart*-Best picture.

He was riding the top of the world with this film about Scottish culture and their overthrow of British rule. Gibson himself starred in the movie as well.

He played William Wallace, a Scot that watched his country fall to shambles when the British come in. He watched them murder his

wife for her refusing of an English soldier. It was enough to drive him crazy. Or enough to drive an army, the second being what he did.

Wallace lead the Scots into battle, seizing major cities

like York and almost London before meeting his fall at the hands of the King of England himself.

The biggest thrill for Gibson making this movie were the battle scenes, actually filmed in Scotland. The crew ended up enlisting an entire Scottish army to play the Scottish army that rushes the fields alongside Mel himself.

Those scenes later went on to win a MTV movie award for best fighting scene. But Gibson was no where in sight to except the award. Jamie Lee Curtis accepted for him.



THE NET star Sandra Bullock sits at the beach with her Apple Powerbook. In the movie she plays a computer techie who learns too much and has her life "deleted." Also in the year Bullock

starred in pictures like "While You Were Sleeping" with Bill Pullman, and "Two if by Sea" along side comedian Dennis Leary.

# 'NET'gainer

It all started simple enough. Superstar actress Demi Moore turned down the role of a bus driver in a flick she saw dying out before it even got rolling. The result: Sandra Bullock. Her career has been gaining momentum ever since she starred in the movie *Speed* alongside Keanu Reeves. Since she's climbed high enough to headline her own movies like *The Net*, and *While You Were Sleeping*. This summer she's got top billing for the John Grisham movie, *A Time to Kill*. That should fit perfectly into her killer resumé. Next summer she returns in the sequel to *Speed* without Reeves. Instead she's got \$11 million dollars to take his place.

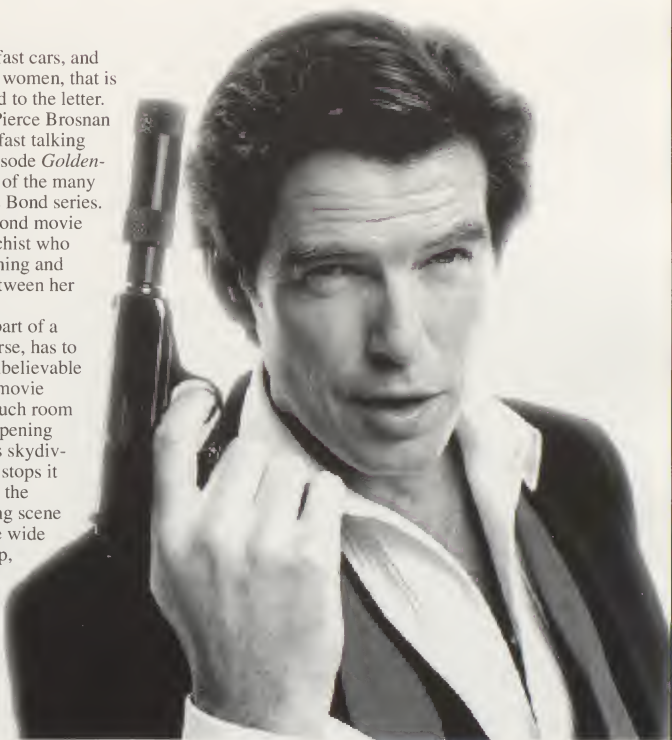


# the return of agent

# 007

Pierce Brosnan  
debuts as the new  
Bond, James Bond in  
*Goldeneye*.

**F**ast action, fast cars, and even faster women, that is James Bond to the letter. This time Pierce Brosnan played the fast talking Bond in the new episode *Goldeneye*. This is just one of the many movies in the James Bond series. Nothing adds to a Bond movie like a woman masochist who kills people by crushing and suffocating them between her legs. Another important part of a Bond movie, of course, has to be incredible and unbelievable action scenes. This movie covered that with much room to spare. From the opening scene where he goes skydiving into a plane and stops it from plummeting to the ground, to the closing scene where an entire mile wide satellite dish blew up, the action scenes just keep coming. This movie defiantly adds some spice to the James Bond series.



anytime you need a

F.R.I.E.N.D

Success starts with the letter 'F' for NBC, and for the *Friends* cast.

One of America's most popular evening sitcoms aired on NBC, Thursday nights at 7:00. In its second year running, the show has taken over America's television sets. Ross, Chandler, Rachel, Phoebe, and crew have become an overnight sensation with little one liners and twisted plots. If it wasn't Ross's ex leaving him for another woman, it had to be his monkey, Marcel that had the audience laughing uncontrollably.

A much-hyped special guest show that followed the Super Bowl had boast of guest appearances by Brooke Shields, the psycho stalker, Julia Roberts, the revenge-obsessed set director and Jean-Claude VanDam.

Also, it's theme song, "I'll be there for you" by the Rembrants, held a number one spot on America's Billboard chart and had everyone humming its melody for weeks.

## A N I S T O N ' S   A N T I C S

### 'Rachel hair'

Quick close your eyes. Perky Jennifer Aniston, Rachel of the sitcom *Friends*, has done it again. This time Aniston appeared in-the-buff on the cover of the ever-popular music magazine, *Rolling Stone*. Oddly enough, that issue became one of the best-selling in the history of the publication.

If you missed it, don't worry. One place you can't miss the godchild of the late Telly Sevelas is in a salon. There's pictures of her, or at least her hair, everywhere. Do you have "Rachel hair" yet? Maybe it's just not you?



MOP TOPPED Jennifer Aniston has had the world spinning. Whether it be her bouncy hair or bouncy personality, she's become the most talked about celebrity in beauty parlors across America.





## BOWING OUT

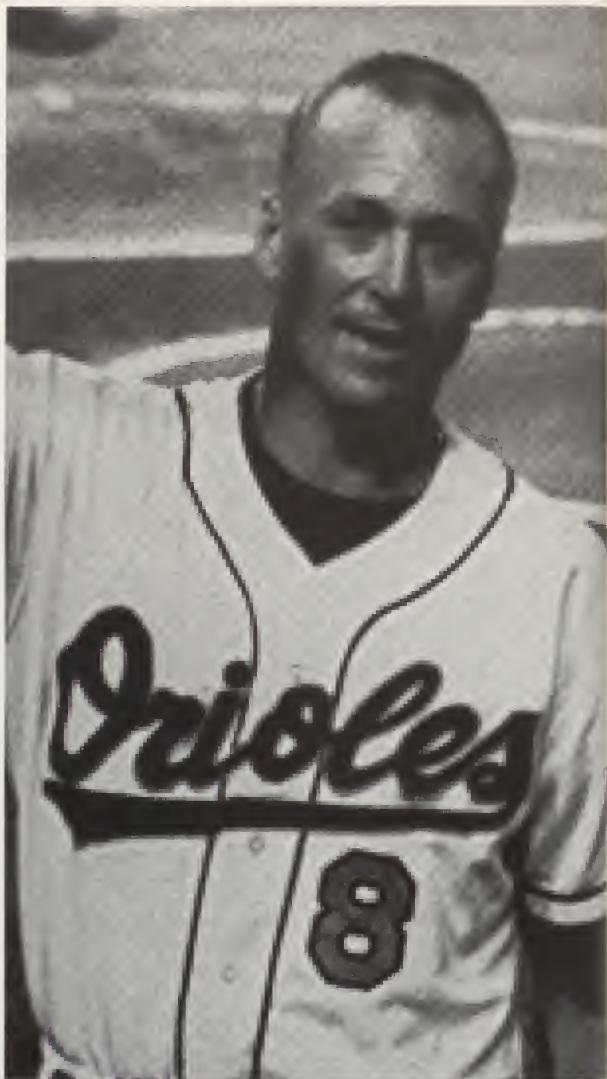
1996

### We will remember

Jerry Garcia  
Lana Turner  
Mickey Mantle  
Rose Kennedy  
James Merrill  
George Burns  
Yitzhak Rabin  
Jonas Salk  
Eva Gabor  
Ginger Rogers  
Howard Cosell  
Erma Bombeck  
Wolfman Jack  
Burl Ives  
Krissy Taylor  
Jessica Dubroff  
Ron Brown  
Selena  
Eazy E  
Gene Kelly  
Lyle Stoelling

## Ripken makes history, 2131

Cal Ripken Jr., in a triumphant flurry of hits and homers, at last passed the hallowed mark of 2,130 consecutive games set by Lou Gehrig in 1939, and you didn't have to know a shortstop from a backstop to admire the mettle of the new Iron Horse. You had only to see him high five the fans as he circled the field to know that galantry is alive.



# Is life really Mellon Collie



## for the Smashing Pumpkins?

Life must be so rough when you're on top of the world. In their follow-up to "*Siamese Dream*," the Chicago band, Smashing Pumpkins, landed the No. 1 album award from MTV in their annual rating.

Many of their songs deal with depression and that's exactly what the band went through not too long ago. After *Dream*, there were

thoughts of breaking up. James (guitars) and Darcy (guitars) had just ended their relationship and nothing seemed to be going the Pumpkins' way. But "*Mellon Collie*" brought the group back together and let them re-become friends again.

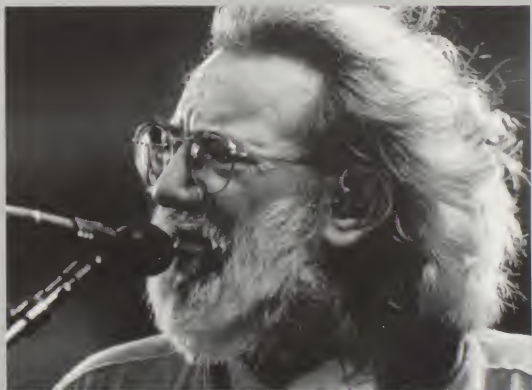
Another new thing that the Pumpkins did was tour in small venues.

## G A R C I A   S T O P S   T R U C K I N '

### D.O.A. (dead on arrival)

"Ol Jerry just couldn't keep up anymore. After checking into a drug rehabilitation center Garcia died before being able to check out.

In his last tour with the Grateful Dead, something happened that hadn't happened before. The crowd was violent. "Deadheads," as they're commonly called, mourned Jerry's passing by lighting candles among other things on the night he died.





# Xena: Warrior Princess

Lucy Lawless and company bring Greek Mythology mainstream in syndicated areas.

It was bound to happen.

Somebody, after watching too many *Conan the Barbarian* episodes went on a feminist kick. The result?

*Xena: Warrior Princess*. It's a new twist on the old battle of the Greek Gods. First there was *Hercules: The Legendary*

*Journeys* with Kevin Sorbo. Now Lucy Lawless, after guest starring as Xena in quite a few *Hercules* shows got a show of her own.

Lawless, a native of Australia still resides in the land down under where the show is taped every week and likes the idea of fame

without attention. *Xena* goes into its third season this fall.

As to why the show has been doing so well, nobody really knows. There hasn't been any real break though in film technology. In fact, most of the special effects would go perfect with the classic "B" movie.





# 'Mr. Creepy'

With its 12th century cathedral and its picturesque setting at the edge of the Highlands, the tiny town of Dunblane was a haven from the chaos of the modern world -- a close knit country village where crime meant stealing somebody's garden ornaments and residents had every reason to believe that It Can't Happen Here. But it did. The week of March 18, 1996, in a few short minutes of wanton savagery, a heavenly armed

psychopath, Thomas Hamilton, 43, a.k.a. "Mr. Creepy", went berserk in Dunblane Elementary School, fatally shooting 16 youngsters ages 5-6 years and their teacher and wounding 12 others in the school gymnasium.

"Evil visited us yesterday and we don't know why," said the school's headmaster Ron Taylor, his voice shaking. "We don't understand it, and I don't think we ever will."

## Gone too soon

Jessica Dubroff, at 7 years old, was determined to be the youngest pilot to fly across the US. And she may just have made it, had her plane not gone down. On April 11, 1996, at 8:24 am, Jessica's plane went down in the

back yard of Aileen Clark. Clark was busy putting Easter decorations away when she heard a loud crash. She yelled to her husband to call 911, and ran outside. Jessica Dubroff, her father Lloyd Dubroff, and

Jessica's teacher, Joe Reid, all died on impact. An ABC camera on board to record the event, had captured no clues as to what had actually happened in the cockpit although it's possible the plane was over weight.

# First Class Fans

NEITHER BLISTERING WINDS NOR FOOT UPON FOOT OF SNOW COULD KEEP LOYAL PIRATE BASKETBALL FANS FROM SEEING THEIR TEAM. SILLY SPIRIT WEEK DRESS-UP DAYS AND THE CLASS **COMPETITION** MEANT EVERYTHING. FOOD DRIVES FOR THE LESS FORTUNATE SHOWED THE HEART OF MHS, WHILE PROM PROVED THAT THE CLASSES OF 1996 AND 1997 KNEW WHAT LOVE WAS ALL ABOUT. BAND, ORCHESTRA, AND CHOIR

WERE FUN BUT **CLASSY**, ALL WHILE MAKING MHS PROUD. STUDENTS FROM ALL OVER INDIANA ARRIVED FOR STATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT CONVENTION AND HAD A "BLAST." POMS AND CHEERLEADERS **MOTIVATED** THE FANS AND THE FLAG CORPS ENTERTAINED WHILE THE MARCHING BAND TOOK THE FIELD. SENIORS CAN LOOK BACK ON THEIR BREAKFAST AND CALL IT THEIR OWN, WHILE THE OTHERS SEE IT AS SOMETHING TO LOOK FORWARD TO. THE LEADERSHIP, THE

**FRIENDSHIP**, AND THE COOPERATION. ALL IT TOOK WAS A LITTLE TIME TO GET USED TO HIGH SCHOOL, AND ALL IT TOOK WAS A LITTLE TIME TO REALIZE THAT IT ALL ENDS **MUCH TOO FAST**.



THE GRIMLY GUY MAY SKETCH WAS A HIT AT THE '96 REVENUE BOARDS FROM VARIOUS HIGH SCHOOLS CAME TO SEE THE SKETCH AND THE GRIMLY GUY. THE GRIMLY GUY WAS A HIT AT THE '96 REVENUE BOARDS FROM VARIOUS HIGH SCHOOLS CAME TO SEE THE SKETCH AND THE GRIMLY GUY. THE GRIMLY GUY WAS A HIT AT THE '96 REVENUE BOARDS FROM VARIOUS HIGH SCHOOLS CAME TO SEE THE SKETCH AND THE GRIMLY GUY.







THE BRIGHTLY  
DECORATED  
HERO TRUCK  
CARRIES SEVERAL  
PLAYERS FROM  
THE FRESHMEN  
FOOTBALL TEAM  
AND SOME OF  
THE FRESHMEN  
CHEERLEADERS.  
THIS YEAR THE  
SENIORS WON  
FOR THE BEST  
FLOAT  
DECORATION.







# Makin' Waves

Homecoming week  
sends spirits soaring

By: Jamie McKenney  
& Amanda Richardson



AFTER APRIL PRATSCHER WAS CROWNED FOOTBALL HOME COMING QUEEN, BY LAST YEAR'S QUEEN, LEAH FRINK, SHE POSED WITH THE REST OF THE COURT FOR PICTURES. MEMBERS OF THE COURT ARE MARIANNE MAJ, KIM ONOFF, APRIL PRATSCHER, BETH JUSKO, AND LINDA MYSLIWIEC.



MIKE HAMPTON AND DANIELLE GUNN ENJOY A SLOW DANCE TOGETHER AT THE HOME COMING DANCE.

Spirits were especially high as students and parents alike lined up along Broadway to watch the 1995 Homecoming Parade. Traditionally, the Homecoming Parade has always had a good turnout, but this year it seemed as though the street had almost disappeared through the crowd. As the Band of Pirates marched down Broadway, they proudly started things off with the school song. Students had spent weeks to design a winning class float with the seniors taking first place.

Linda Mysliwiec, Marianne Maj, Kim Onoff, April Pratscher, and Beth Jusko, all '96, were nominated as Homecoming Court. The Queen was announced at the Homecoming game. A surprised April Pratscher, accepted the honor.

"Underwater Fantasy" was the theme of the 1995 Homecoming Dance. The decorations, made by Student Government, were balloons made to look like underwater caves, fish balloons, pieces of colored foil to look like seaweed, and tinsel to look like waves and water.

Everyone gathered in a circle to watch the spotlight dance between Homecoming Queen April Pratscher and Mr. Football Matt Siecker. The students really got into the dance when the deejay played songs such as Y.M.C.A. and *Saturday Night Fever*.

Friends laughed and danced together and as the end of the night drew near, it had only begun. Many went out as large groups to dinner, or camped out at a friends house.

"It was fun compared to last year," said Claudia Neri, '96, "but it was sad knowing that it was going to be my last one here."



"IT WAS FUN COMPARED TO LAST YEAR, BUT IT WAS SAD KNOWING THAT IT WAS GOING TO BE MY LAST ONE HERE."  
CLAUDIA NERI, '96

# Super Fans

By: Jamie McKinney

Fans give a boost  
to Pirate moral

"Vlahos! Vlahos! Vlahos!"

A common chant heard at every basketball game. Maybe it was their undying passion for the game, or maybe it was just because they were nuts. What ever it was, it was all because they were Pirate fans.

Cold weather, heat waves, snow storms, and hurricanes, Pirate fans have seen it all. They've braved the weather to give their team the confidence and fearlessness they needed.

Maybe it was high school energy. Maybe it was weekend boredom, but whatever it was, it brought those fans to every game to cheer for their team. And if they had to wear ten layers of clothing or just their underwear they made sure they made a difference at every game.

Most people identified the superfans by their loud chants and antics. And Superfans were also known as "those kids who take up all the student section."

"I love them!," Cliff Hughes, '96, forward for the Pirates basketball team, said, "their enthusiasm has been a great help to the team this year."

The players weren't the only ones who enjoyed the enthusiasm from the superfans. Coach Jim East personally thanked the fans after a home game.

But during the sectional game at home the superfans were asked to sit down and calm themselves. Assistant Principal Tom Hebert told them that cheering for the team was fine, but they were disturbing other spectators.

"The students should use pride not intimidation," Principal Dr. Daniel C. Rapacz commented, "anything toward the other team is just not good sportsmanship."

Finally Coach Rick Wimmer asked Donny Hollandsworth, '97, to leave after an alleged gesture to the other team was made. In protest all fifteen of the superfans showed their support for Hollandsworth by leaving the game.

"They should let us stand up and have fun at the games," Mike Tyrikos, '96, said, "because the whole thing is supposed to be for the students, not the other people who are complaining that they can't see. If they want to see they should either not sit behind the student section, or they should stand up and join in."

After all, weren't the fans the ones who gave Spirit meaning?



"THEY  
SHOULD LET  
US STAND UP  
AND HAVE  
FUN AT THE  
GAMES."  
MIKE  
TYRIKOS, '96

A FEW STUDENT  
FANS FLASH THEIR  
PEARLY WHITES  
FOR THE  
CAMERA. THE  
STUDENT BODY  
WAS AN  
IMPORTANT  
FACTOR IN TEAM  
MORALE AND  
SPIRIT.

MARCHING TO  
A DIFFERENT  
BEAT... A WAY  
DIFFERENT BEAT,  
DAVE EATON  
GETS CRAZY AT  
A BASKETBALL  
GAME.





FINDING A DATE FOR BRIAN NEELY WASN'T A PROBLEM, BUT GETTING HER TO SHAVE WAS. JOE FOSTER DRESSES UP TO HAVE SOME FUN AND SUPPORT THE PIRATES AND HIS FELLOW CHEERLEADERS.

# Dance Fever

By: Erica Brown

Poms dance their  
way into  
competition.



"OUR  
PERFORMANCE  
WAS VERY SELF-  
REWARDING.  
WE WERE VERY  
HAPPY WITH  
OUR  
PLACEMENT  
CONSIDERING  
THAT WE  
COMPETED  
WITH SOME OF  
THE BEST  
SQUADS  
THROUGHOUT  
THE STATE."  
CHRISTINA  
GARGANO, '96

This year's Pom-Pon squad was very busy. A season that started with conditioning on in-line skates in the parking lot ended with a trip to Texas.

The team also went to camp last summer at Purdue University in West Lafayette. That was an exciting, learning experience for the girls and a good chance to see what their competition might be.

Throughout the entire year the squad has worked extremely hard and has put forth the greatest effort. "We worked extremely hard to prove ourselves as more than dancers in short skirts - but athletes," said Diana Hammer, '98. No injury or pain stopped these ambitious girls from getting what they wanted. That was to be the best.

This year was also the first year the squad was separated into Junior Varsity and Varsity. With this change the girls seemed to accomplish a lot and seemed to work better together as a team. This change also helped many girls to achieve individual awards for their attitudes and performances. This year's team showed strength and positive attitudes toward their season.

The team participated in more competitions this year including Lake Central, Gavit, and Indianapolis. They also accompanied the band to Bloomington for IU Band Day.

Regionals were held here at MHS. However, their travels took them to Bedford North Lawrence for the State Finals where the Varsity squad finished sixth in the dance category and eighth in the pom category. Captain Christina Gargano commented, "Our performance was very self-rewarding. We were very happy with our placement considering that we competed with some of the best squads throughout the state."

The JV squad also qualified for nationals by finishing third out of eight in the pom category and second out of six in the dance category.

The team wrapped up their season by competing against 39 other teams for Nationals at the Dallas Convention Center in Dallas, Texas.

ANN MARIE  
BRONOWSKI,  
AMANDA  
BUDA, AND  
MELISSA CLARK  
SUPPORT THEIR  
TEAM FROM THE  
STANDS AS THEY  
WAIT FOR HALF-  
TIME TO  
PERFORM. IN  
ADDITION TO THE  
POM-PON  
COMPETITIONS  
THE SQUADS  
PERFORMED AT  
EACH HOME  
FOOTBALL AND  
BASKETBALL  
GAME.





LOOKING  
PROUD,  
ELISABETH  
BLACK SMILES  
WHILE  
MARCHING  
DOWN  
BROADWAY.  
STIFF ARMS AND  
A SMILE ARE  
REQUIREMENTS  
FOR THE SQUAD.



KRISSY MALAST  
MOVES INTO HER  
NEXT POSITION.  
STAYING  
TOGETHER  
REQUIRES MANY  
HOURS OF  
PRACTICE.

THE POMS ARE  
ALL SMILES AS  
THEY PERFORM A  
PRE-GAME  
ROUTINE AT A  
HOME FOOTBALL  
GAME. THEIR  
SEASON STARTED  
IN JULY AND  
LASTED FOR  
EIGHT MONTHS.



*JOSH SESSIONS  
AND MISSY  
McCORY WAIT  
TO CATCH APRIL  
PRAITSCHER. AS  
WITH ANY SPORT,  
CHEERLEADERS  
CAN BE INJURED  
DOING THEIR  
STUNTS.*



*BARBARA  
HOAGLAND  
WORKS TO GET  
THE CROWD  
INVOLVED IN THE  
GAME. AT  
TIMES GETTING  
THE CROWD  
EXCITED CAN  
ACTUALLY HELP  
WIN THE GAME.*

# Spirit Builders

By: Becky Paine

Cheerleaders get the fans and student body hyped up

"We've got spirit," echoed on the field or through the gym. Who create all this spirit? Of course, our cheerleaders. You spotted them on the side lines at football games chanting cheers to get the crowd riled up, but their season started much earlier than football season.

Chosen before school was out, in the summer the cheerleaders went to camp. Like any other sport, practicing made them into a team. At camp the cheerleaders competed for spirit sticks, ribbons, and trophies for being the best and most spirited squad. At the end of every day the squad that showed the most spirit that day received a spirit stick. The MHS squad came home with a collection of spirit sticks.

At camp they concentrated on working together and learning new cheers and stunts.

The stunts the cheerleaders did sometimes left the crowd gasping. Yet few people had any idea how many hours of practice went into perfecting those stunts. "This year was awesome because of all the hard work and dedication we put into it!" remarked Josh Sessions, '97.

Basketball the cheerleaders stand out even more. During every timeout and at half time they are out on that floor building an awesome looking pyramid to the ever famous "Eye of the Tiger."

The cheerleader's showed their strength and courage at the beginning of every basketball game when someone did a free fall back onto their fellow cheerleader's arms.

Everyone of our cheerleaders showed great leadership skills plus they all looked out for each other.

The male cheerleaders added strength and support to the squad. Having the guys made the squad look more like college cheerleaders because they were able to do a wider variety of stunts.



"THIS YEAR  
WAS  
AWESOME  
BECAUSE  
OF ALL THE  
HARD  
WORK  
AND  
DEDICATION  
WE PUT  
INTO IT!"  
JOSH  
SESSIONS,  
1997

DURING  
BASKETBALL  
SEASON  
VARSITY AND  
JV  
CHEERLEADERS  
WORK  
TOGETHER TO  
FORM PYRAMIDS  
DURING  
TIMEOUTS. AT  
THE TOP RANDY  
COLLINS WAVES  
THE PIRATE  
FLAG.



# Starry-Eyed

By: Amanda Richardson

Heavenly bodies lent a touch of romance to the magical evening



**"PROM WAS MORE OF A MUTUAL SPENDING THIS YEAR ... A LOT OF COUPLES SPLIT THE COSTS!"  
DEANNA GONZALEZ, '97**

As the last rays of the setting sun shone through the windows of St. Elijah Serbian - American Hall, students walking into prom began to feel the magic of the night to come. Gone was the debate about whether the ever mounting expense was worth it. One look around determined that it was.

Couples found their own ways to divide up the cost. Deanna Gonzalez explained, "Prom was more of a mutual spending this year. Usually the guy pays for one thing, the girl pays for another. But this year, a lot of couples split the costs!"

Appropriately, the decor was made up of gold suns, silver moons, accompanied by a royal blue background. Glittering confetti stars, suns, and moons of blue, gold, and silver were scattered across every table. Several students thought that the silver moon and gold sun balloons that garnished several tables were a trendy touch. Although the majority of the students thought that the theme, "Somewhere Out There," was out of date and lacked the charm and romance that usually coincides with prom.

While no one had any complaints about the menu, which consisted of chicken, salad, potatoes, bread, mostacholi, corn, rice, and ice cream cups for desert, students were more relieved this year when they found out they would not have to pay for the pop.

After dinner everyone filed out onto the dance floor to get down to the sounds being deejayed by *Channel Z* - well, almost. Many students had several complaints about the deejay and the number of songs from the past, but everyone danced on to the more traditional songs.

Soon it was time to crown the new prom King and Queen as the court was called up to the stage. Court this year consisted of the following students: Latoi Hughes, Celeste Martinez, Rebekah Jusko, and Natalie Nimon for Queen; and Brad Balcerak, Donny Hollandsworth, David Downs, and Ma'Rion Anderson for King. Keeping it in the family, Rebekah Jusko was crowned by her sister Beth Jusko, who was crowned by her cousin Leah Frink, the year before. While Donny Hollandsworth was crowned King by Joe Foster. Afterwards the new royal couple led the students in the Grand March around the hall.

Overall, prom gave everyone a chance to enjoy the evening and have fun with their friends. For seniors, this meant the last dance together and memories to last forever. Although there were complaints the majority of the students did not let it interrupt their night and their good time.

SONA DAMIANOSKI AND FRIENDS JOIN THE LINE TO DANCE TO MUSIC PLAYED BY CHANNEL Z. ALTHOUGH THE DEEJAY PLAYED MORE OLDIES THAN SOME STUDENTS WANTED, MOST STUDENTS STILL HAD A GOOD TIME DANCING.

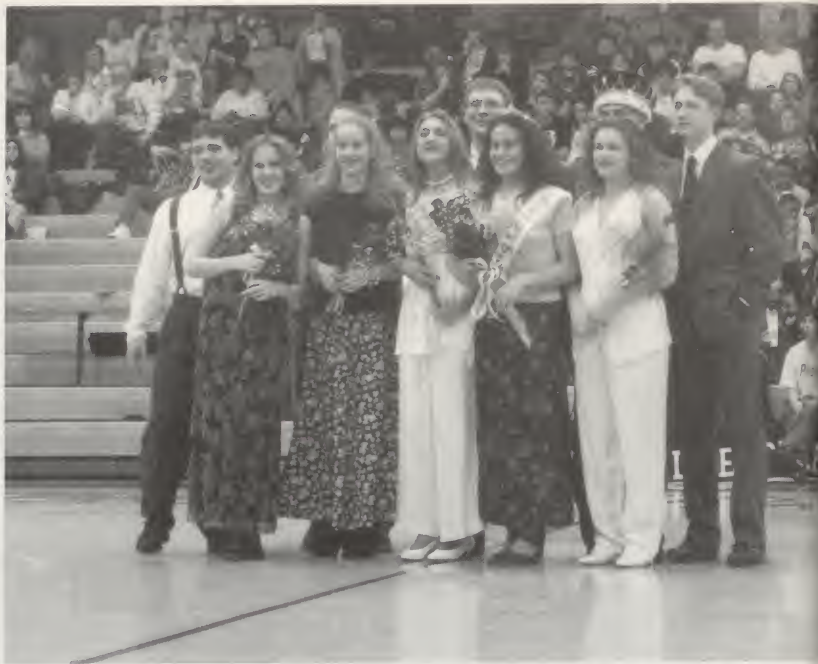


PROM QUEEN  
REBEKAH JUSKO AND  
KING DONNY  
HOLLANDSWORTH  
LEAD THE  
PROMGOERS IN THE  
TRADITIONAL GRAND  
MARCH.



DANCING CLOSE,  
MOST STUDENTS  
MADE THEIR WAY TO  
THE DANCE FLOOR  
FOR THE SLOW  
SONGS.





CONTESTANTS IN  
THE ANNUAL HOT  
LEGS CONTEST  
LISTEN TO THE  
CROWD. THE  
STUDENT WHO GETS  
THE MOST CHEERS  
WINS THE CONTEST.  
THE WINNER OF THIS  
YEAR'S CONTEST WAS  
JASON MILLER.





# Courting Winners

By: Kevin Newton

Decorating halls  
replaced the halftime  
parade to save time

The tension builds and you feel your heart racing in your chest as you hear your name announced over the loud speaker. As you walk to the center of the gym, with what seems like a thousand people all looking at you, you seem to float as if you are in a dream. You stand there in anticipation as you wait for what seems an eternity for the other couples to join you in the limelight. All time has stopped, and everything proceeds in slow motion as you wait for the announcer to call you name, you hope. As you hear your name called, you feel this great joy build up inside of you, and you seem to be bursting at the sides with happiness.

This is what it feels like to be crowned the homecoming queen. But the crowning is just one of the many traditions that have formed over the years for basketball homecoming. Among those traditions, some of the most popular are Spirit Week; the Hot Leg Contest; the after-game dance; and a new tradition this year, a hall decorating contest.

When you think homecoming, what comes to your mind first? Probably the most popular activity is the homecoming court. Contestants are nominated in their homerooms to be included on the court. Homerooms then vote and the top three vote getters make the court. Homerooms then vote to elect the queen, king, and princesses. The crowning ceremony took place at halftime of the LaPorte game on January 26. A win over the Slicers made the festivities all the more enjoyable.

For the freshmen the court consisted of Laura Luevano, Katie Taylor, and Jacque White. Sophomore members of the court were Elena Bielawski, Christin Cirrincione, and Diana Hammer. Latoi Hughes, Rebekah Jusko, and Natalie Nimon were the junior members. Queen candidates were Staci Ahrens, Bethany Jusko, Marianne Maj, Linda Mysliwiec, and April Pratscher. Finally, Chris DeMure, David Kamano, Chris Muvceski, Brian Neely, and Matt Siecker were the candidates for king.

And the winners were . . . Jacque White, Diana Hammer, Rebekah Jusko and the 1996 king and queen Chris DeMure and Linda Mysliwiec.

Spirit Week was another one of those unforgettable traditions of homecoming. Each day students dressed with a designated theme in mind showing their school spirit as well as gathering spirit points for their class. Monday was pajama and boxer short day, Tuesday was college sweatshirt day, Wednesday was blast from the past day, Thursday was class colors day, and as always, Friday was purple and white day.

Other traditions that have continued through the years are the Hot Legs Contest and the after-game dance. The senior guy with the hottest legs this year was Jason Miller.

After experiencing problems getting all of the homecoming festivities finished during the allotted time in 1995, Student Government decided to discontinue the halftime parade to save time. They replaced it with a hall decorating contest. Each class had a designated hallway to decorate. They used posters, purple, white, and silver streamers, and other attention getters. The winning class was the seniors. Unfortunately, a few students showed their disrespect for the new event by tearing down decorations before the week was over.



"STUDENT  
GOVERNMENT  
FELT THAT  
SINCE THE  
PARADE TAKES  
UP TOO  
MUCH OF THE  
TIME OF  
HALFTIME  
THAT IT  
WOULD BE  
BETTER TO DO  
SOMETHING  
ELSE THAT  
WOULD STILL  
GIVE THE  
CLUBS AND  
CLASSES  
SOME WAY TO  
SHOW THEIR  
SPIRIT."  
JUDY  
JENNINGS, '96

THE HOMECOMING  
COURT POSES AFTER  
THE CROWNING OF  
QUEEN LINDA  
MYSLIEWIC AND  
KING CHRIS  
DEMURE.

GREG MISH  
EXPRESSES SURPRISE  
AS DIANA HAMMER  
WON AS THE  
SOPHOMORE  
PRINCESS.  
UNFORTUNATELY,  
SHE WAS UNABLE TO  
ACCEPT THE ROSES  
HERSELF SINCE THE  
POM-PONS WERE ALL  
IN DALLAS, TEXAS  
COMPETING IN  
NATIONALS.

# Higher Ground

By: Jamie McKenney

Seniors head to the beach for another spirit point victory, but fall short of warm sun.



"I WISH THE KIDS WOULD HAVE GOTTEN BETTER WEATHER FOR THEIR TRIP."  
JANICE MINOR, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Wind, sand, rain. Wind, sand rain and ....dead fish? That's only the beginning of what the Senior Class experienced on the Spirit Point Trip to the Dunes.

On their two previous trips to the Dunes, many students enjoyed activities at the water's edge. However, cold weather prevented any wading students may have wanted to do this year. Then large bulldozers moving sand around the beach prevented anyone from staying close to the beach house.

Rain clouds blocked sunshine from reaching any grain of sand leaving it cold and damp. And those students hoping to add color to pale faces were out of luck. As the breeze blew, the rancid smell of fish engulfed the entire beach, leaving the seniors to head for higher ground. Assistant Principal Janice Minor commented, "I wish the kids would have gotten better weather for their trip."

Most seniors found that heading for the trails, kept them occupied and warm. The key seemed to be to keep moving.

Others found various activities to keep themselves amused. Corey Lake and Dave Sierkowski entertained peers by playing harmonicas, while Jimmy Metros, Jeff Rangeloff, Christy Pierce, Mike Villanueva, and Kevin Pruess, along with others formed a circle to hackie. Still others tossed a football back and forth.

As the day wore on, the clouds decided to drizzle. Students huddled together to keep warm and to try and keep the rain off.

As the class returned from the beach, they were given a freshly mowed, wet field to cope with. Many, again, headed for another ground....the parking lot. Seniors were dismissed 15 minutes early, so as not to find themselves beached in the parking traffic after 3:00. This also kept a lot of sand from being tracked through the building.

Though the weather did not cooperate, nothing could stop the seniors from having a day at the beach....except for rancid fish that is.



A GROUP OF SENIORS FOUND A SHELTERED PLACE HALF WAY UP THE DUNES AWAY FROM THE WIND TO SIT AND EAT THEIR LUNCH. STUDENTS BROUGHT THEIR LUNCH IN ASSORTED BAGS AND COOLERS, BUT THEY WERE NOT ALLOWED TO BRING ANY GLASS CONTAINERS INTO THE STATE PARK.



KELLI MOORE  
CARRIES HER  
SANDALS UP THE  
DUNES AS SHE AND  
A FRIEND DEBATE  
WHAT TO DO NEXT.  
MANY SENIORS  
CHOSE TO EXPLORE  
THE TRAILS TO PASS  
THE TIME AND TO  
KEEP WARM.



SENIORS HEAD UP THE DUNES  
AWAY FROM THE LAKE. COLD,  
WET WINDS AND THE STENCH OF  
ROTTING FISH MADE THE BEACH  
UNAPPEALING. THEY WERE ABLE  
TO STAY WARMER AND STILL HAVE  
A GOOD TIME FROM PERCHES UP  
ON THE SAND DUNES.



# Last Breakfast

Seniors gathered to see who the winners were and relax with friends.

By: Tanya Pawl



"IT WAS FUN, YET BITTERSWEET. IT WAS A REALIZATION OF THE PARTING OF FRIENDS AFTER GRADUATION." SEAN BUCK, '96

On May 24, while the underclassmen attended their normal school day of classes, the Class of '96 gathered in the cafeteria for the annual Senior Breakfast. "Senior Breakfast was a relaxing time for us to be together as a class one last time before Commencement," explained Brian Snelson.

He added, "Looking around the cafeteria, I couldn't help but wonder how many faces I will only see again at class reunions."

This feeling was echoed by others including Beth Jusko, who remarked, "It made me realize that I'm gonna miss the memories that my best friends and I have made."

Everyone came in their best-dressed attire with their cameras and videocameras flashing trying to save the memories. The morning began with a long line waiting for food and everyone hopping from table to table socializing and shooting some Kodak moments.

After everyone settled down and took their seats, Tori Burdett took the podium and read aloud the senior poem. Following that the annual Senior Choice Awards were announced amid the cheers and jeers. Earlier in the year the class had voted for the best male and female for various categories.

Sean Buck recalled, "It was fun, yet bittersweet. It was a realization of the parting of friends after graduation."

Items to go into the time capsule were also displayed on a table for everyone to see. Seniors were able to contribute anything from high school ID's and homework slips to Vanilla Ice CD's and Pez dispensers. Others contributed athletic team pictures or just pictures of friends. These items will be returned to the students 20 years from now as party favors at the 20 year high school reunion.

However, every class is not allowed to bury a time capsule. The class must fulfill certain requirements first. For a class to bury a time capsule, they must have outstanding spirit and unity as a class, among other things. And above all that, the class must win two spirit point competitions in a row. The Class of '96 won as freshmen, sophomores, and seniors.

Students also watched the senior video before getting out of school. Seniors then jumped in their cars for the famous drive-around and then were off to meet their fellow classmates and enjoy the day off. "It was an all-around great time and a moment I'll never forget," said Jason Simpson.

BRIAN NEELY, JOI BARKER, AND AARON SHELTON TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO CLOWN AROUND WITH FRIENDS KNOWING THAT ALL OF THE REMAINING SENIOR ACTIVITIES ARE MORE SERIOUS.

ALL HEADS TURNED FOR THE PRESENTATION OF THE SENIOR CHOICE AWARDS. MUCH CHEERING WAS HEARD AS FRIENDS CONGRATULATED THE LUCKY WINNERS.



JENNIFER GABRIEL  
ATTEMPTS TO  
CAPTURE THE  
MOMENT WITH HER  
VIDEO CAMERA.  
CLASS SPONSORS  
COULDN'T REMEMBER  
ANOTHER YEAR  
WHEN STUDENTS  
VIDEOTAPE THE  
PROGRAM.



PRESENT IN SPIRIT,  
BRIAN SNELSON SITS  
NEXT TO A PICTURE  
OF PANTON  
WILLIAMS.  
WILLIAMS WAS  
UNABLE TO ATTEND  
SENIOR BREAKFAST  
BECAUSE HE WAS  
PARTICIPATING IN  
CATHOLIC SPEECH  
NATIONALS.



Powder Puff teams took  
to the field to prove  
which class was the best

# Takin' the Field

By: Amanda Richardson



"SOME  
PEOPLE  
TOOK THE  
GAME WAY  
TOO  
SERIOUSLY,  
AND THAT  
CAUSED A  
LOT OF DIS-  
APPOINTMENTS  
IN THE END."  
JENNIFER  
BERKMAN,  
'97

**A**s the sun set across Demaree Stadium and the enormous spotlights clicked to life, the green field seemed to take on new life as all four Powder Puff teams waited anxiously to take the field. After a brief pep rally, the freshman team clad in purple and white and the sophomore team wearing gold and purple, ran onto the field. The freshmen captains, Melissa Kerns and Sandra Blanco met with sophomore captain Jennifer Beaty to flip for the kickoff.

Although Kelly Preuss scored touchdowns for the sophomores, the freshmen came back with Melissa Kerns to score two touchdowns. Mandy Lucious followed with a third. In the end, the sophomore and freshmen teams came up almost even, but the Class of '99 managed victory with a final score of 18-12. Jessica Randolph '99, commented about her first year of Powder Puff, "I had fun being with my friends as a team, and I got to know a lot of people."

Finally, the senior and junior girls got to show their stuff. So did the senior football players as they appeared from the locker room dressed in cheerleader drag. As the Class of '96 came out with defensive captains Linda Mysliwiec, Amanda Richardson and offensive captains Kim Onoff and Michelle Janiszewski in the lead, the guys wished the team good luck with high fives. The juniors joined the seniors on the field to start their warm-ups, as junior captains Tamara Beaty and Deanna Gonzales lead the Class of '97.

Not even five minutes into the first quarter Marianne Maj, '96, scored a touchdown. It seemed the course of the game was set until the beginning of the second quarter when the juniors tied the game with their first touchdown, to go into halftime with a 6-6 tie. As the third quarter began, light drizzle fell, turning the already slick field into what seemed like a sheet of ice. Although the rain increased to a steady downpour, the Class of '96 managed to score again and win by a score of 12-6.

Even though the teams shared some animosity toward each other, they managed to stay focused, and the more determined classes came out on top. Jenny Berkman, '97, commented about her experience during Powder Puff, "Some people take the game way too seriously, and that caused a lot of disappointments in the end."

After everything was said and done, all of the girls shook hands and the winning teams went off to celebrate their victories.

WITH THE JUNIORS  
AND SENIORS AT A  
6-6 TIE AT THE END  
OF THE FIRST HALF,  
DEFENSIVE CAPTAIN  
AMANDA  
RICHARDSON LOOKS  
EAGERLY TO THE D-  
COACH, ROD  
GAYDA, FOR A  
PLAN. THE SENIORS  
WENT ON TO WIN  
THE CLOSE GAME BY  
A SCORE OF 12-6.

NUMBER 18  
TAYONA  
SHADWICK,  
PLAYING RUNNING  
BACK FOR THE  
SENIORS, USES HER  
SPEED TO ESCAPE  
KELLY JENKINS.



THE  
SOPHOMORES  
AND THE  
FRESHMEN LINE  
UP TO START  
THEIR GAME.  
THE FRESHMEN  
WON BRAGGING  
RIGHTS FOR THE  
YEAR BY A SCORE  
OF 18-12.



VARSITY  
FOOTBALL  
PLAYERS KEVIN  
ALBERS, CHRIS  
DEMUERE,  
MARINO STATH,  
MATT SIECKER,  
BRIAN  
BRATCHER AND  
MA'RION  
ANDERSON  
PERFORMED  
BEFORE THE  
GAMES STARTED.



HARRIETTE  
KELLY SINGS A  
RENDITION OF  
ONE OF HER  
FAVORITE  
SONGS.



KEVIN NEWTON  
AND ANDY  
CRANE  
PERFORMED THEIR  
OWN COMICAL  
RENDITION OF  
"SISTERS"  
FROM THE  
HOLIDAY FAVORITE  
WHITE  
CHRISTMAS.



# Casting Call

By: Jamie Mckenney

The cast of Revue '96 proved they did have a clue.

BRAD  
BALCERAK,  
JAY LACNY,  
AND HIS LITTLE  
BROTHER  
NATHAN  
LACNY (IN THE  
CHAINS) MAKE  
UP THE BAND  
HOUDINI. IN  
BETWEEN  
PERFORMING  
SONGS THE  
MEMBERS OF  
THE BAND TIED  
UP AND  
CHAINED  
NATHAN. HE  
BROKE FREE  
WITHIN  
SECONDS.

AL BARBER,  
SAM CARTER,  
BARRY  
THOMAS, AND  
AARON STEELE  
PERFORM A  
HILARIOUS SKIT  
THAT BROUGHT  
THE HOUSE  
DOWN BOTH  
NIGHTS OF THE  
REVUE.

What do Forrest Gump, Waldo, and Houdini, all have in common? Absolutely nothing unless of course your talking about the Revue '96. MHS's annual talent, or as Mike Zolfo stated, "not-so-ready-for-prime-time" show, proved to be once again a tremendous success. Ranging from modeling to music to acting, singing, dancing, and poetry this Revue had it all, including quite a few rude audience members.

David Kamano, '96, told his story of Forrest Gump, with a few minor adjustments. And he had quite a lot of guts to let the cast of the Revue '96 use his baby pictures in the skit, including ones of his baby "buttocks."

The ever famous Al Barber had the audience cracking up along with his sidekick Sam Carter. They did a we-could-be-your-grandfathers-and-probably-are skit introducing Barry Thomas and Aaron Steele.

Beth Jusko and Matt Cooke, both '96; and Joe Moore, Eugene Vivo, Jessica Anderson, Mandy Sopko and Megan Reberg, all '97, did their rendition of 'Summer Lovin' from *Grease*. And they had the outfits to prove it.

Who'da thought butterfly collars would come back? Houdini, (Brad Balcerak, Jay Lacny, and Nathan Lacny) proved that any outfit will do. Performing twice, their own "Hollow", and also "Wild Thing," showed one talented guitarist, drummer and singer. They seemed to follow the in the footsteps of last years performers Anti-star, and the years before Thirsty Camel. After all what would the Revue be without one of our own local bands?

Just when we all thought football season was over, Rick Wimmer and the boys... and Lisa, with backup help from Houdini, played Foggy Mountain Breakdown. Mr. Wimmer strummin' on the ole' banjo, kinda gave southern girl Lori Dust a chance to do her own heckling this time.

And last but certainly not least, Kevin Newton, '96, brought us Bobo once again. This time Bobo had quite a few uh..... mind boggling? questions. Like, "If you make a cow laugh will milk come out it's nose?" We don't know Bobo; you tell us.

But there were those audience members who seemed to think the show was about them. Loud and inconsiderate MHS students made quite a few rude comments to performers on the stage, causing tears, and one performer to leave the stage yet nobody was escorted out.

Revue '96, was unlike any other, with talented performances by many MHS students and ingenious skits. If MHS were strictly a performing arts school, we might just have our own Merrillville 46410.



"YOU  
COULD TELL  
EVERYONE  
WORKED  
REALLY  
HARD ON  
EVERYTHING  
THEY DID."  
KEVIN  
NEWTON, '96

# Music with Status

By: Tania Prough

Band give a boost to  
Pirate morale by playing at  
all home games



"OUR INDIANA UNIVERSITY BAND DAY TRIP IS ONE WEEKEND THAT I WILL NEVER FORGET. WE HAD FUN, DEEPEDED OUR FRIENDSHIPS, AND REPRESENTED MERRILLVILLE HIGH SCHOOL PROUDLY." SHERRIE STUPIC, '97

Drums, trumpets, and trombones are just a few instruments that you hear from the MHS band. They have performed all over the United States and have performed beautifully. With a great teacher and colorful outfits, they make MHS very proud. MHS band is split up into five groups: pep band, symphonic band, marching band, jazz band, and concert band. All groups except for symphonic and concert band are extracurricular activities.

Marching band consists of four different groups performing as one. First is the hornline which consists of all brass and woodwind instruments. The second group is the drumline which include both battery percussion (on the field percussion) and pit ensemble (sideline percussion). Colorguard and Pom-pons also march with the band.

Marching band is the first activity during the band season. Marching band starts almost immediately after the previous year has ended. It starts with rookie/section leader rehearsals once a week. In about the middle of June, full band rehearsals start for the Fourth of July Parade. The 1995 Fourth of July Parade was quite a washout for the band; literally. But in the true spirit of the MHS band, they pulled through the drenching downpour.

The MHS marching band participated in several other activities this year along with the normal half time shows at football games. The first of these activities was when the band participated in a half time show at the RCA Dome in Indianapolis. Another of these activities was I.U. Band Day in Bloomington. "Our Indiana University Band Day trip is one weekend that I will never forget. We had fun, deepened our friendships, and represented Merrillville High School proudly," recalled Sherrie Stupic, '97.

The second group is the jazz band called Jazz Impact. Jazz Impact starts in November and continues throughout most of the rest of the year. The band meets for rehearsal once a week until contest time at which point rehearsal time may be increased. Jazz Impact participated in two contest this year. The first of these was the I.S.S.M.A. Jazz contest where the band received a good rating. The second of these contests was the Music in the Parks Festival at Cedar Point in Sandusky, Ohio. The band received a good rating as well as placing third.

The symphonic and concert bands are the two bands activities which actually meet as classes. The symphonic band includes students in grades 10-12 while the concert band includes ninth graders as well as a few upperclassmen to help out. Both the bands went to I.S.S.M.A. Contest, and both received a good rating.

The last group is the pep band. This is perhaps the most well known MHS band. The pep band consists of all volunteer members who meet after school once a week for rehearsal. The pep band plays at all of the home basketball games.

KARA GONZALEZ  
LIFTS HER HORN  
TO THE PRESS  
BOX DURING THE  
1995 "FIDDLER  
ON THE ROOF"  
SHOW.  
GONZALEZ HAS  
BEEN A MEMBER  
OF THE BAND OF  
PIRATES FOR ALL  
OF HER FOUR  
YEARS.

DRUMLINE  
MEMBERS,  
MICHAEL  
COUGHLIN AND  
ANTHONY  
REDDIX, PUT ON  
A LOOKS OF  
CONCENTRATION  
AS THEY PLAY  
THEIR BEST AT  
THIS YEAR'S  
HOMECOMING  
PARADE.







WITH A LOOK OF SUPREME CONCENTRATION SENIOR DRUM MAJOR BRIAN SNELSON RAISES HIS ARMS TO CONDUCT THE 1995 BAND OF PIRATES. AFTER A WEEK LONG TRYOUT THEIR SOPHOMORE YEAR, A DRUM MAJOR IS SELECTED TO SERVE FOR TWO YEARS. THEY THEN ATTEND DRUM MAJOR CAMP FOR TRAINING.

# All in the Family

By: Melissa Polonczyk

Colorguard searches for more creativity, and grows closer on the way.



"WE'RE  
LIKE  
SISTERS. WE  
WATCH  
OUT FOR  
EACH  
OTHER AND  
ALL LOVE  
TO  
PERFORM."  
DEANNA  
PRICE '97

Whirlin' and twirlin'. Dancin' and prancin'. Movin' and grovin'. Don't think Poms or Cheerleaders. Think Colorguard! The 15 girls and coach Michelle King had fun throughout the year. One time was when they still participated in the annual Fourth of July parade despite the monsoon.

Deanna Price, '97, recalls the parade as challenging. "In addition to slippery poles, the silk soaked up the water making the flags heavy."

"We kept snapping each other with the flags," Jaime Levitt, '97, added. And still they marched on.

Another fun trip was a performance at Indiana University during half-time.

The guard spent the night in a school gymnasium and had to wake up at a ridiculously early hour to shower and prepare for a big day performing with the IU guard.

"Tiffanie Coe was so nervous that she couldn't even talk!" Price recalls.

King's goals for the year were to break away from the typical look that the guard has become used to and incorporate more dance into their routine. During football season, more props were used such as scarfs. Also there were a few solos.

"We tried to become a little more creative," King explains.

A letdown for the guard was their absence at ISSMA district marching band contest because of a conflict with school activity performances.

"The girls were disappointed that they couldn't participate in the regional band contest," King noted.

Throughout the good times and the bad, the girls have grown closer. Price relates the color guard to family. "We're like sisters. We watch out for each other and all love to perform."

THE  
COLORGUARD  
MARCHES DOWN  
BROADWAY WITH  
THE BAND CLOSE  
BEHIND. THE  
COLORGUARD  
ADDED NEW  
PROPS TO MAKE  
THEIR ROUTINES  
MORE CREATIVE.

ERICA HALL  
POSES WITH HER  
FLAG DURING A  
ROUTINE AT A  
HOME FOOTBALL  
GAME. THE  
COLORGUARD  
MARCHES WITH  
THE BAND AND  
POSES AT EACH  
HOME GAME.





JENNIFER PRICE  
AND MARIE  
KAMINSKY DO A  
TOSS. MEMBERS  
OF THE  
COLORGUARD  
MUST LEARN TO  
TWIRL AND DO  
TOSSES WITH  
THEIR FLAGS AS  
WELL AS DOING  
MARCHING  
ROUTINES.



POISED AND READY  
THE CHOIR LISTENS FOR  
INSTRUCTION TO SING.  
JASON DZUNDA AND  
ELAINE CASTRO  
WATCH PATIENTLY FOR  
INSTRUCTIONS WHERE  
TO MOVE DURING THE  
PERFORMANCE.



# Changing Tune

By: Sarah Burt

Restructuring made  
a difference  
in the choirs

SHOW CHOIR  
MEMBERS ANDY  
CRANE, CARA  
COLON, DEANNA  
PRICE, AND JOE  
MOORE PERFORM  
THE NATIONAL  
ANTHEM AT A  
HOME FOOTBALL  
GAME.

THE CHOIR  
LINES UP  
BEFORE A  
CONCERT. THE  
GROUP MADE  
FREQUENT  
APPEARANCES  
BOTH AT THE  
ELEMENTARIES  
AND AT LOCAL  
BUSINESS  
FUNCTIONS.

Class size and a conflict with first hour AP classes caused restructuring of the choir program this year. The end result was five choirs: Show Choir, VocalTeens, VelvetTeens, Concert Choir, and Ninth Grade Choir.

Singing, dancing and making people happy is what this year's choirs were all about. All five choirs gave a lot of free time to help make the choir a spectacular sight to see.

The choir spent the beginning of the year preparing for the Annual Choir Benefit Concert. The money raised from this concert went to buy new outfits to take on the Spring Break trip to Florida.

VocalTeens had many performances entertaining all the way up until the day before Christmas Eve. At the same time they also had to get ready for their Christmas Concert that ran for two nights.

When the new year came, so did a new dance instructor. He turned the Show Choir into street dancing bad boys. They performed the dances for audiences in Florida and Northwest Indiana.

The choir did dances that MHS had never seen, and they were excited about the change.

Show Choir pulled together as a family and traveled to Florida for their first taste of street dancing at Paradise Island in Disney World. The trip was a success except for a few severe sunburns. An extreme case of sunburn resulted in an early flight home for one senior student.

Practices continued after the journey with the Spring Concert not far away. "The choir (concert) ran for two nights and both nights were spectacular. The audience absorbed all of the choirs' energy and let the choirs know how awesome and talented they are," said Sarah Burt, '96.

The year definitely ended with a bang. The seniors were honored at the last concert. Tears of sadness ran down their faces as they finished their last performance on the MHS stage.



"THE  
AUDIENCE  
ABSORBED  
ALL OF THE  
CHOIRS'  
ENERGY AND  
LET THE  
CHOIRS  
KNOW HOW  
AWESOME  
AND  
TALENTED  
THEY ARE."  
SARAH BURT,  
'96





"ORCHESTRA  
HAS BEEN A  
GOOD  
EXPERIENCE  
FOR ME."  
MONICA  
SHAFFER, '96



# Unique Talent

Students demonstrate  
their love for music  
with their effort

By: Becky Paine

Imagine one teacher for about 50 students. With the hard work of orchestra teacher Barbara Timmerman the orchestra has grown throughout the years.

This class is not like any other. Throughout the years these students are together they become a lot like brothers and sisters. The orchestra is a perfect example of unity.

Orchestra students have a special love for music. This is expressed at the many concerts they put on throughout the year. Many of the students also demonstrate this love by playing in the Northwest Indiana Youth Orchestra, performing in the pit orchestra for drama productions, and participating in solo and ensemble contests.

The students in this class have a very unique talent. This year violinist Candice Parker and Melissa Skratsky, both '96, qualified for the All-State Orchestra. Parker made the trip to Indianapolis to participate in the group, which is made up of talented students selected from challenging auditions. The All-State Orchestra plays extremely difficult musical selections.

As a group, the class works a lot on sight reading different pieces of music. Timmerman also splits the class during the hour to practice with the different sections. This helps them improve on their individual parts. "Orchestra is a fun class and hard working," said Dede Riddle, '96.

In addition to these in class practices each person must practice at home. Each member is as important as the next.

The orchestra qualified to participate in the State Solo and Ensemble Contest where it received a first rating for Large String Ensemble.

Individuals receiving Superior ratings at the State Solo and Ensemble Contest were Skratsky for her viola solo and Jason Rico, '96, for his horn solo. The String Trio with Monica Shaffer, '96, and Parker on violins and Skratsky on viola also received a Superior rating, as did the Violin Quartet of Parker, Shaffer, Deborah Kings, '96, and John Miller, '97.

Many of the students believe that the time spent in orchestra has been worthwhile. They have won awards and enjoyed themselves tremendously. "Orchestra has been a good experience for me," commented Monica Shafer, '96.

Others plan to make music a career. "I enjoyed orchestra class and hope to pursue it in college," said Parker who has been accepted to study music in college.



"ORCHESTRA  
IS A FUN  
CLASS AND  
HARD  
WORKING,"  
DEDE  
RIDDLE, '96

CANDICE  
PARKER  
PERFORMS A  
VIOLIN SOLO IN  
HONOR OF DR.  
DANIEL C.  
RAPACZ'S  
INDUCTION AS  
PRESIDENT OF  
THE STATE  
PRINCIPAL'S  
ASSOCIATION.  
LATER IN THE  
SCHOOL YEAR  
PARKER, A  
MEMBER OF  
THE  
NORTHWEST  
INDIANA  
YOUTH  
ORCHESTRA,  
PERFORMED  
WITH THE ALL-  
STATE  
ORCHESTRA.

# Having a Blast

By: Becky Paine

Student Government  
hosted the rest of the  
state for convention.



"YOU GET TO  
PLAN THE  
DANCES, YOU  
GET  
INVOLVED IN  
THE SCHOOL,  
AND YOU GET  
TO MEET  
DIFFERENT  
PEOPLE."

KARI  
FORSTER, '97

This past fall the Merrillville High School Student Government had the honor of hosting the Indiana Association of Student Councils' State Convention. The theme for this year's convention was B.L.A.S.T., which stands for Building Leaderships and Securing Tomorrows.

The convention focused on the leadership skills of the students in attendance. Throughout the weekend of November 11-12, students attended workshops, attended business meetings, and listened to keynote speakers. The workshops ranged from communication skills to icebreakers to country line dancing. The meetings dealt with issues within each council's district, to topics concerning the state council. The keynote speakers for the weekend were; Eric Chester, Peter Visclosky, and Ed Gherty.

On Saturday evening students went with their host families back to their homes. The host families fed them and let them get ready for that night's activities.

That night the fieldhouse was transformed into a dance club/ carnival. The D.J. played music from rock to retro 70's. The D.J. had all video screens set up around his stage. The other half of the fieldhouse had a bungee run, bouncy boxing, and a velcro obstacle course.

Saturday's activities concluded with a candlelight ceremony. The host families picked the students up and housed them for Saturday night. The students returned Sunday morning and departed around noon for their trip home.

The state convention was run completely by Merrillville students. Marc Holm, '96, Convention Chairman; Jennifer Johnson, '97, Programming Committee; Kari Forster, '97, Workshop Committee; Judy Jennings, '96, Advisor Committee; Marie Kaminsky, '96, Housing Committee; Jason Jezuit, '96, Food Committee; Jenny Price, '96, Publicity Committee; Pam Ruschak, '96, Registration Committee; Candice Parker, '96, Entertainment Committee; and Maegan Krisko, '97, Folder Committee.

Approximately 100 other students, from the high school, also put in many hours of hard work to make the convention a great success. B.L.A.S.T. will be one of Merrillville Student Government's biggest accomplishments.

SOCKIN' IT TO  
HER. AARTHI  
TEJUJA PLAY  
PUNCHES HER  
FRIEND  
CANDICE  
PARKER AS ONE  
OF THE MANY  
ACTIVITIES AT  
THE STUDENT  
GOVERNMENT  
CONVENTION.

MARC HOLM  
LIGHTS A  
CANDLE FOR  
STUDENT  
GOVERNMENT  
PRESIDENT  
JENNIFER  
JOHNSON AT  
THE CANDLE-  
LIGHT SERVICE.  
THIS WAS TIME  
TO SHARE AND  
BOND WITH  
THE ONES  
AROUND YOU.



STUDENTS FROM ALL OVER COME TOGETHER AS ONE IN A CANDLELIGHT MOMENT. THIS WAS A MOVING EXPERIENCE FOR MOST OF THE STUDENTS AND SOMETHING THAT WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN.

# Nothing Less Than 100%

STRIVING FOR **EXCELLENCE** WAS OUR MOTTO, AND REACHING THAT GOAL WASN'T OUT OF THE QUESTION. WITH THE NUMEROUS ADVANCES AND ADVANTAGES STUDENTS HAD, LIKE THE NEW WEATHER STATION, OUR SCHOOL WAS RANKED AT THE TOP. PEOPLE CAME FROM ALL OVER TO BE A PART OF THE **STUDENT GOVERNMENT** CONVENTION. MANY NEW TEACHERS

WERE ADDED TO THE FACULTY, AND A FEW WENT ON THEIR WAY. CLASSES CROWDED, AND SO DID THE HALLWAYS. NEW **RULES** WERE ENFORCED AND OLD ONES STAYED THE SAME. THE SENIOR CLASS WAS THE FIRST TO HAVE PURPLE ROBES FOR THE GUYS AND GIRLS AT **COMMENCEMENT**, AND THEY WERE ALSO THE FIRST TO ATTEND FOUR YEARS AT MHS IN OVER A DECADE. COMPUTERS WERE AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS IN NEARLY EVERY ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT. OUR SCHOOL GAVE STUDENTS ADVANTAGES OTHERS COULD ONLY DREAM OF. IT HELPED US DECIDE OUR **FUTURE** AND PLAN THE CLASSES WE NEEDED FOR IT. WE STRIVED FOR EXCELLENCE NOT JUST IN SPORTS, BUT ALSO IN **ACADEMICS** AS ILLUSTRATED BY OUR ACADEMIC TEAMS.



STUDENT GOVERNMENT  
PRESIDENT JONAS KIRK  
AND VICE PRESIDENT GABRIELE  
FOUR OTHER STUDENTS AT THE  
STATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT  
CONVENTION HELD AT MHS  
IN SEPTEMBER.





TRAVIS SCHMIDT  
SNOOZES IN  
CLASS BEFORE A  
HARD  
BASKETBALL  
PRACTICE AFTER  
SCHOOL.



JAIIME SMITH  
CATCHES A  
QUICK NAP.  
MANY JUNIORS  
AND SENIORS  
WORK TO PAY  
FOR CARS,  
INSURANCE, AND  
THE LATEST  
CLOTHES. THIS  
LEAVES THEM  
TIRED ALL DAY AT  
SCHOOL.



ANGELA WUSIK  
SLEEPS AWAY  
ANOTHER DAY IN  
SCIENCE CLASS.  
MANY SENIORS  
TRY TO PLAN AN  
EASY SENIOR  
YEAR.



BY:  
ERICA  
BROWN

Sleeping in class was be a sign of many different emotions. Whether lack of sleep caused students to fall asleep during class, was a question that many teachers wanted answered. Many teachers thought that it was unfair for certain students to slack off just because of a night out during the week when they should have spent the time studying for a test, reading an assignment, or doing homework.

Jack Neuliep, a science teacher, received what might possibly be a common consequence from his teachers if he fell asleep during class when he was in high school. "My teacher would place my hand in warm H<sub>2</sub>O," he said. Maybe this would be the response of Mr. Neuliep to one of his students.

On the other hand, Jeff Cseke, '98, guessed, "I think Mr. Neuliep would electrocute me!" No one knew exactly what Mr. Neuliep would do to his students if they fell asleep.

Alicia Gunn, '96, speculated, "I think Mr. Vermillion would pour a beaker of water over my head to wake me up." Many students were curious to find out if these teachers would really do what they said. But was it worth it to find out by daring these teachers?

Not only was sleeping in class a major disappointment to teachers, but some students who wanted to pay attention were distracted by these students sleeping in class rather than sleeping at home. Why should the students who were interested in class and wanted to succeed suffer just because of people who could not stay awake?

Mary Ann Galanis, a social studies teacher said, "The punishment in my school would have been so severe that falling asleep would have never occurred." Maybe if this were the case for students here, sleeping in class would not happen here either.

# School Daze

JASON MILLER  
SLEEPS AWAY  
ANOTHER  
BORING DAY OF  
CLASS. SOME  
STUDENTS  
SHOWED THEIR  
LACK OF  
INTEREST IN A  
CLASS BY  
SLEEPING.  
OTHERS WERE  
TIRED IN  
SCHOOL  
BECAUSE THEY  
HAD A BUSY  
WEEK DAY  
SOCIAL  
CALENDAR  
PREFERRING TO  
SLEEP IN  
SCHOOL AND  
HANGOUT WITH  
FRIENDS OR  
WATCH TV  
ONCE SCHOOL  
WAS OUT.

JENNIFER FULLER  
SHOWS HER FUNNY  
SIDE AS SHE TELLS  
HER CREATIVE  
WRITING CLASS A  
STORY ABOUT HER  
CAR. SHE DID HER  
STUDENT TEACHING  
FIRST SEMESTER AND  
JOINED THE STAFF  
WHEN JACKIE  
CRONE LEFT AT  
SEMESTER.



By:  
JUSTIN  
KISSINGER

With the death of one popular teacher and ever increasing class sizes, there was a demand for more teachers. Teachers were added to the staff in many different departments. New teachers ranging in subjects area from special education to biology all brought new goals to MHS.

"I think the staff support has been great. I love it here," commented Beverley Seaver, one of three new teachers in the English department. Jennifer Fuller replaced Jackie Crone at semester after doing her student teaching with Bruce Woods in the fall. Amy Lewandowski also joined the English department part time in an attempt to lower class sizes for Intermediate Comp.

Other new teachers include Afrodite Mitrakis, home economics; Michelle Wilson, special education; Cheryl Shankel, algebra; Linda Oldenburg and Matt Bodnar, Art; and Artie Rogers, social studies.

# Something New

Ron  
studies,  
of weeks.

Kopplemann, social  
was here for a couple  
He was replaced by  
Artie Rogers just before semester. Mary Simmons also joined the social studies department part time at semester.

Growth in the art department as well as teachers moving from building to building added two new art teachers. Jeremy Josleyn, '97, described Oldenburg as "an alright teacher, but a bit too strict."

Deborah Onika-Brazys who taught biology was new to the high school but not to the school corporation, moving to MHS from Harrison.

With classrooms filled to the max, teachers were definitely challenged. Even with the new additions to the staff, many teachers believed more teachers were needed.

BEVERLEY SEAVER,  
WHO FORMERLY  
TAUGHT COMPOSITION  
AT PURDUE CAL,  
HELPS A STUDENT OUT  
OF A JAM. BESIDES  
TEACHING ENGLISH  
SHE ALSO HELPS  
COACH THE SPEECH  
TEAM WHICH WENT  
TO STATE.





ASSISTING  
JENNIFER HEINE IN  
A QUADRATIC  
FORMULA,  
CHERYL SHANKEL  
HAS HELPED BY  
REDUCING MATH  
CLASS SIZES.



ARTIE ROGERS  
WAITS AS HIS  
PSYCHOLOGY  
CLASS TRIES TO  
SOLVE A MIND  
BOGGLING PUZZLE.  
ROGERS ALSO  
COACHED  
WRESTLING.



TWINS RONDA AND RACHEL PRICE  
WAIT IN THE WINGS AT THE RADISSON  
STAR THEATER FOR GRADUATION TO  
BEGIN. RACHEL PRESENTED THE  
SALUTATORIAN'S SPEECH DURING THE  
COMMENCEMENT PROGRAM.



VALEDICTORIAN  
MONICA  
SHAFFER SPOKE  
ABOUT  
"LUMINALITY," A  
MOMENT OF  
CHOICE AFTER  
WHICH NOTHING  
WOULD BE THE  
SAME.





RHODENA  
JEFFERSON,  
DAMON  
JENKINS,  
AARON LEWIS,  
AND SCOTT LEE  
RELAX  
FOLLOWING THE  
COMMENCEMENT  
SPEECHES.

By:  
TRICIA  
CANTRELL

From the beginning the Class of '96 showed their intense spirit and willingness to work together by winning the Spirit Point Contest their freshman year. When it came to their graduation, they vowed for it to be truly their own.

The first class to spend their final four years at the high school in more than a decade, took two heated and sometimes confused votes. In the end, the decision was made for the entire class to wear purple robes for graduation breaking the tradition of girls in white and guys in purple.

Those favoring all purple robes said that most girls had a hard time finding the required white dress for un-

der the  
white  
robes.  
They  
added  
that they  
preferred to spend  
their money on a  
dress that they would  
wear more than once.

On the other hand, those in favor of white gowns claimed that tradition was important and should not be changed. After the second vote, they proved to be in the minority though.

While some argued against changing traditions, others spoke out in favor of creating traditions of their own. The change in the robes was not the only new tradition created at graduation.

This year the senior poem was also read at Commencement, rather than just at Senior Breakfast. The Commencement Planning Committee had planned for the senior video to be shown at Commencement also. However, the high cost of renting the Radisson's video equipment for about five minutes kept that change from becoming a reality.

Another change in tradition came with the decision to have their homeroom teachers read the names of those students in their homerooms instead of the senior counselors.

Whether noted for continuing the old traditions or creating their own, the Class of '96 stuck together.

JOHN ALSTON,  
A MOTIVATIONAL  
SPEAKER FROM  
LOS ANGELES,  
WHO WAS THE  
FEATURED  
SPEAKER FOR THE  
EVENING, TALKED  
TO THE STUDENTS  
ABOUT THEIR  
GOALS TO MAKE  
THE WORLD A  
BETTER PLACE.

# Changing Tradition

PAM RUSCHAK  
AND MAGGIE  
SAMSON WAIT  
FOR THE  
BALLOONS TO  
DROP  
SIGNALING THE  
END TO THE  
COMMENCEMENT  
CEREMONY.



By:  
TRICIA  
CANTRELL

Nearly 400 members of the Class of '96 sat quietly in their purple gowns with their tassels swaying with the slightest movement. They listened with their teachers, their administrators, and their families as class president Chris DeMure, valedictorian Monica Shaffer, and salutatorian Rachel Price talked about taking the next step.

DeMure said, "After tonight we will all go our separate ways and pursue our dreams." He added, "We are here and the future is now."

To Shaffer commencement was "luminality," a moment of choice. She advised classmates, "You will come to many forks in the road." She pointed out that these forks represent

choices that they will have to make in their lives.

Price reminded students that up until now parents and others have helped to

make the important decisions. She added, "Now it's our turn... to make our own decisions by ourselves."

Finally featured speaker John Alston, a motivational speaker from Los Angeles, told the students "You are now moving into the university of life -- the greatest university of them all." He talked to the audience about his goals and reminded the students, "The goal is to find the talents and gifts inside of you - and give them back to the world." He challenged the Class of '96 to "make this world a better place."

At last the long awaited moment arrived and graduates moved across the stage to receive their diploma covers from Superintendent of Schools Dr. Tony Lux. Homeroom teachers read the names of the students they have greeted daily for four years and smiled at the students as they experienced this rite of passage.

This morning the Class of '96 were high school students. This evening they are alumni embarking on the most challenging experience of their lives.

# Taking the Next Step

MARGARET  
RUBIN SMILES  
AS SHE MOVES  
HER TASSEL FROM  
LEFT TO RIGHT  
SIGNIFYING HER  
COMPLETION OF  
HIGH SCHOOL.

SUPERINTENDENT  
DR. TONY LUX  
CONGRATULATES  
AARON LEWIS  
AS HE HANDS  
HIM HIS DIPLOMA  
COVER.





DR. TONY LUX  
CONGRATULATES  
DANNY  
WASKOSKY AND  
PRESENTS HIM  
WITH HIS  
DIPLOMA  
COVER. IN A  
WHEELCHAIR  
SINCE A CAR  
ACCIDENT ,  
WASKOSKY  
RECEIVED A  
STANDING  
OVATION FROM  
HIS CLASSMATES.

CLAUDIA NERI  
PASTES HER PAGE  
ONTO THE  
LAYOUT SHEETS.  
THE DUTIES OF A  
PAGE EDITOR  
DON'T END  
UNTIL THEIR PAGE  
IS IN THE BOX  
READY TO GO  
TO THE PRINTER.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF  
KELLI MOORE  
AND BUSINESS  
MANAGER KIM  
ONOFF DISCUSS  
WHICH ADS TO  
PUT ON THE  
FEATURE PAGES  
IN THE NEXT ISSUE  
OF THE MIRROR.  
AD PLACEMENT  
AFFECTS THE WAY  
THE REST OF THE  
PAPER LOOKS  
YET SPECIAL  
REQUESTS FROM  
ADVERTISERS  
MUST BE  
HONORED.





CLAUDIA NERI  
OFFERS ANNA  
PAPAZAROU  
ADVICE ON HER  
STORY AS STAFF  
MEMBERS  
RESEARCH,  
INTERVIEW, AND  
WRITE THEIR  
STORIES.



By:  
Jamic  
McKenney

Headaches, deadlines, and rubber cement. Not your average everyday normal class. But for 20 high school journalists it's almost a life. From 7:00 am until almost 5:00, or even later, dedicated staffers work through lunch, homeroom, study period, and after school to pull the paper together.

Kelli Moore and Amanda Richardson, both '96, head the class as editors-in-chief along with seven page editors, reporters, and a business staff. *The*

Mirror...  
Mirror...  
publication advised by Jean Stanford, and it is distributed every two weeks, .... well almost.

Plenty of stress and disagreements can fill the room from week to week. On press days it's extra stress,

because staffers are more pressured to meet the 3:00 pm deadline. "Every issue it seems as though we might not make it to press," remarked Jennifer Draper, '96, "but we always end up pulling it together and making it."

Staffers budget every other week, which means they sit down as a team and discuss which up coming events to write about, and what pictures need to be assigned. Then each page editor assigns the stories that haven't already been chosen by the staffers.

"A lot of people don't understand what it takes to put out an issue every two weeks," said Richardson, "but there is plenty of stress that comes along with hard work and dedication."

Many of the staffers are very close friends, and share many inside jokes about the class and various activities related to it.

But being in the class is almost like a job. It's a little relief from the outside world beyond the door of M108, but it's a little world of its own inside.

JUDY JENNINGS  
PLACES THE  
EDITORIAL AND  
THE COLUMN  
ON THE  
PERSPECTIVES  
PAGE DURING  
PRODUCTION  
WEEK. ON A  
BI-WEEKLY PAPER  
STUDENTS SPEND  
ONE WEEK  
WRITING AND  
EDITING THEIR  
STORIES AND  
ONE WEEK  
DOING THE  
PAGINATION OF  
THE PAGES.



DAN KONTOS  
BLOWS OFF THE  
SAWDUST AFTER  
SPENDING AN  
HOUR WORKING  
HARD ON HIS  
WOODS  
PROJECT.

By:  
Justin

The smell of fresh wood, the floor slippery from the sawdust, the neon-colored safety glasses, and the loud noises from the machines was the scene in a typical Woods class.

Woods class is part of the industrial arts department taught by department head Jim Dailey. Other classes included Auto Shop, Electronics, Auto CAD, and Building Trades. All of these classes

# Knock On Wood

were tech  
prep  
classes.

Many people enjoyed these classes because of the hands-on work and were interested in a related profession.

Brian Sims, '98, said, "I took this class to get a better education in the

industrial arts. I plan to make my living as an Industrial arts teacher or a finish carpenter."

Sims also said, "You get to learn how to use machines the safe and proper way." But in some cases not everyone learned the proper and safe way. Chris Ducret, '97, said, "If you are not careful you can get hurt. Like when Jim Simandl cut is finger open on the band saw."

The majority of students taking these classes because they were mechanically inclined or planned to make their career in some aspect of industrial arts. According to Dailey, the department was growing since not all students planned on attending college. Additional teachers were necessary to handle all of the students signing up for the fall.



TONY TSAHAS  
WORKS ON A  
DRILL PRESS TO  
COMPLETE HIS  
PROJECT FOR  
THE LAST  
QUARTER. ALL  
CLASSES HAD A  
BIG PROJECT  
DUE AT THE END  
OF EACH  
QUARTER.

JUSTIN SAVICH SHOWS MARTIN FRANCO HOW TO PIECE TOGETHER THEIR PROJECT. WOODS CLASS IS AN IMPORTANT PIECE OF THE ENTIRE INDUSTRIAL ARTS PUZZLE.



TRAVIS SCHMIDT STAINS THIS CABINET FOR HIS BIG FINAL PROJECT. HE CUSTOM-MADE THIS FOR A TEACHER WHO WANTED TO BUY IT.



MAGGIE  
SAMSON PICKS  
UP PINS FOR THE  
BOWL-A-  
THON, A  
WORLD WIDE  
SERVICE  
PROJECT TO  
HELP CONTROL  
IDD, IODINE  
DEFICIENCY  
DISORDER, IN  
OTHER  
COUNTRIES.




LISA KANOUSE AND  
MAGGIE SAMSON  
DEMONSTRATE THE  
CORRECT WAY TO HOLD  
THE THINK-IT-OVER BABY,  
THE CLUB PURCHASED FOR  
THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT  
CLASSES.



LISA KANOUSE AND  
MAGGIE SAMSON HELP  
FINGERPRINT A CHILD AT  
WISEWAY. THIS IS TO  
MAKE A COPY OF THE  
CHILD'S PRINTS AND  
PHOTOGRAPH THEM FOR  
THE POLICE IN CASE THEY  
ARE MISSING.





MELISSA KELSEY,  
ALLISON  
MACKEY, AND  
LISA FESKO PUT  
TOGETHER A KEY  
CLUB SCRAP-  
BOOK TO  
COMPETE IN  
NATIONALS IN  
MIAMI.



By:  
SAMANTHA  
PARKER

Helping the others. That's what the Key Club was all about. The group which was associated with the Merrillville morning Kiwanas is made up of students who have com-

# A KEY TO SUCCESS


pasion for others and an overabundance of dedication. The group met every other Monday to decide what community service projects they wanted to do. Maggie Samson, '96, explained, "We do a lot of projects for helping people, and I have a good time. It makes you feel good when you help other people." She added that it was unbelievable how happy the at the nursing home residents were when the club played

Bingo with them. Some of the other projects the Key Club did were fingerprinting children and taking their pictures one Saturday at Wiseway, beach sweeps to clean up the environment, sweeps of the school grounds to pick up trash, and holding a Teacher Appreciation Week. They gave the teachers certificates of appreciation, put candy bars with little sayings on them in the teacher's mailboxes, and provided a breakfast of bagels and cream cheese on Friday morning in the Teacher's Lounge. In addition to their service projects, the club officers occasionally attend meetings of the Kiwanas. Some members also attended the state convention.

Club sponsor Michelle Sulich said, "I have an excellent group of workers, and they hard to get things done. I have a good rapport with all the Key Club members."

Club members agree that there was a good relationship between Sulich and the club's members. "Mrs. Sulich is dedicated and would lean over backward to help most of us," explained Autumn Komisank, '97. This made helping others an enjoyable experience members will want to repeat.

Sulich concluded, "My seniors this year will be missed more than ever before. They have made this club and are very special to me."



THE MHS KEY  
CLUB AND  
OTHER CLUB  
MEMBERS FROM  
DIFFERENT  
SCHOOLS MEET  
TO DISCUSS  
THEIR AGENDA  
FOR THE DAY.



ASSISTANT  
SPEECH  
COACH  
BEVERLEY  
SEAVER HELPS A  
STUDENT. NEXT  
YEAR SHE WILL  
TAKE OVER AS  
HEAD OF THE  
SPEECH AND  
DEBATE TEAM.



By:  
SCOTT  
MYTYK

These crazy people have been at it all year. Practicing for hours and getting up before dawn to attend speech meets. It was a banner year for the Speech and Debate team.

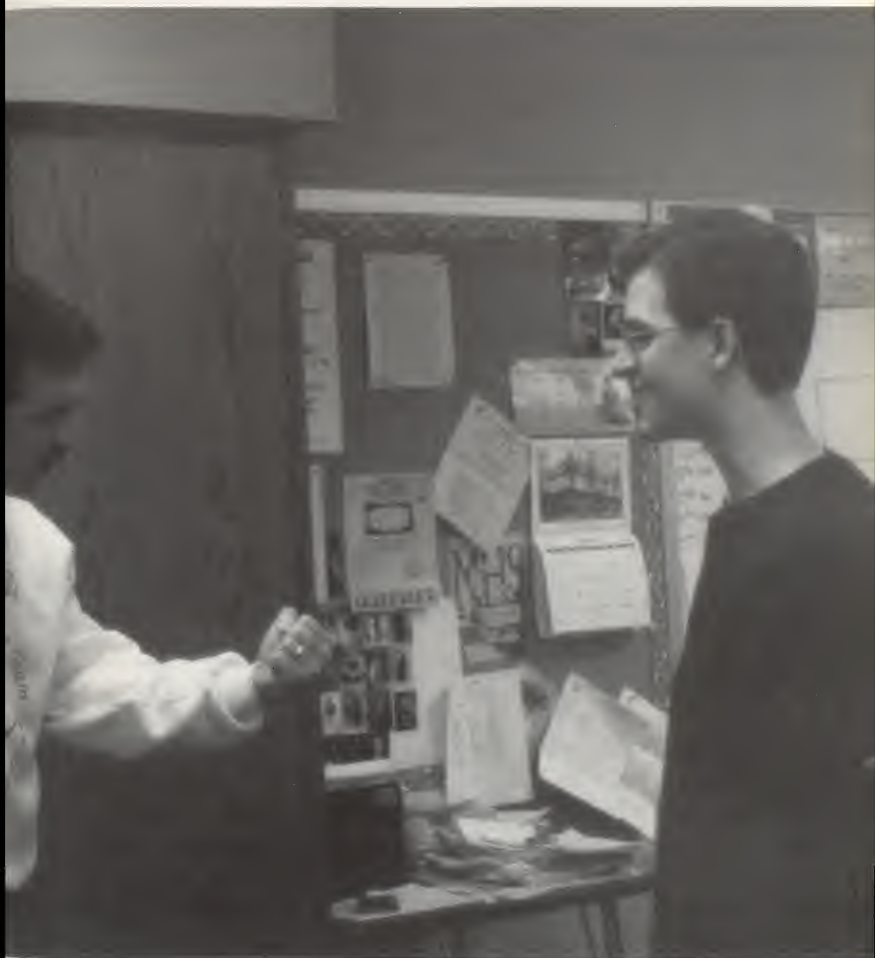
Coach Zolfo "retired" after this year from being the Speech and Debate team coach. Seaver will take over as head coach next year. "We all knew from the beginning that this was going to be Mike's (Zolfo) last year. He wanted to spend more time with his family," explained assistant speech coach Beverley Seaver.

# Qualifiers Make State Nationals

His last year ended on a positive note. Seaver added, "Any time you have students who qualify for Nationals you've had a very good year." Paxton Williams, '96, made it to the Catholic Nationals in Tennessee where he placed twelfth in Original Oratory. The duo of Sam Carter and Al Barber, both '97, qualified for Nationals where they placed well.

Zolfo was pleased with the number of competitors who qualified for the state meet as well. He said, "I knew we would get at least four people to qualify for state but not seven and two alternates." State qualifiers were Rebecca Jenkins, '96, in Impromptu Speaking; Carter and Barber, both '97, in Duo; Carter in Humorous Interpretation; Chris Camisa, '97, in Broadcasting; Brian Haussmann, '97, in Discussion; Jason Reed, '96, in Domestic Extemporaneous Speaking; and Williams in Original Oratory. The two alternates were Michelle Perez, '97, in Impromptu Speaking and Jeff Van Volkenburgh, '97, in Discussion.

SPEECH  
COACH MIKE  
ZOLFO WORKS  
WITH JASON  
REED ON FINE  
POINTS OF  
DOMESTIC  
EXTEMPORANEOUS  
SPEAKING.  
REED QUALIFIED  
FOR STATE IN  
THE EVENT.





*KARI FORSTER ADMINISTERS  
A FAKE INJURY DURING  
GRIM REAPER DAY, WHILE  
SHELLEY WALL, A NURSE,  
AND BOBBY BURKUS, THE  
REAPER ATTEMPT TO MAKE  
DORIN DERICO THEIR NEXT  
VICTIM.*



*STUDENTS LOOK IN AWE AT WHAT THEY  
THINK IS AN ACTUAL CAR ACCIDENT.  
THE M.P.D., E.M.T.'S AND THE FIRE  
DEPARTMENT, CREATE THE APPEARANCE  
OF AN ACTUAL ACCIDENT.*





By:  
AMANDA  
RICHARDSON

LEADING THE  
PALLBEARERS,  
JOE BARKER  
AND CLINT  
HENRY TRY TO  
KEEP A LOOK OF  
GRIMNESS AS  
THEY LEAD THE  
CASKET INTO THE  
SCHOOL. THE  
MOCK FUNERAL  
IS PART OF THE  
ACTIVITIES THAT  
OPERATION PULL  
OVER AND THE  
QUEST STUDENTS  
ACTED OUT.  
BOBBY BURKUS,  
HANK PIMENTEL,  
AND JOSH KIRBY  
ALSO LEND A  
HAND IN  
CARRYING THE  
CASKET.



AFTER USING  
THE JAWS OF LIFE  
TO FREE A FAKE  
VICTIMS,  
SEVERAL  
MEMBERS OF THE  
MERRILLVILLE  
FIRE  
DEPARTMENT  
HELPED TO PLACE  
THEM ON A  
STRETCHER.

What do the Quest classes, MHS, the Merrillville Police Department, and the state have in common? All of them have come together to participate in a statewide contest presented by the 1996 School Traffic Safety Challenge, called Operation Pull Over.

The object of the program is to cut down on the amount of drinking and driving done by minors, promote safer driving habits by teenagers, and to encourage students to take action against it. Operation Pull Over has started this late in the year to coincide with the expected rise of drinking and driving on Prom night and graduation. The program offers a variety of activities in which the students can earn points for their school. The high school that earns the most points will win the grand prize of a pizza party for the entire school, an individual prize for each student and a 1,000 dollar grant to help fund the 1997 alcohol-free after-prom or graduation activities. Other prizes include a 500 dollar grant for second place and a 250 dollar grant for third.

The program started at MHS a couple of weeks ago with the first activity required (on the list of eleven), a school - wide unannounced survey taken of the number of student drivers leaving the parking lot wearing seat belts. The more belts that are worn, the more points the school gets. There will be another survey taken at the end of the project to see if more students started to buckle up, and the school may earn even more points.

Jerry Kasarda, Quest teacher, and officer Nick Bravos of the M.P.D. worked with the Quest classes to complete the following activities: planned all school events (such as a mock crash and grim reaper day), creating awareness for safe driving, showing videos on PNN, hanging up posters around Merrillville, making announcements, and taking a pledge not to drink on prom night or graduation. To help with any costs that the contest may require, Bravos has received a 1,000 dollar grant from the state.

Due to the abundance of under age drinking on prom night, Operation Pull Over made the event one of the main activities in the contest. On prom night the Merrillville Police department set up a road at the entrance to St. Elijah Hall. The M.P.D. was checking students' cars for alcohol, and they also reserved the right to search all the limousines. The less students who were found with alcohol, the more points the school receives, and there were no incidents of abuse reported.

When asked what he thought about Operation Pull Over, Kasarda replied, "I think it is a great idea to have a connection between high school kids and the community, especially for a good cause. It creates a stronger community all around."

# Operation: Pull Over

EARTH SCIENCE  
TEACHER JACK  
NEULIEP TELLS  
HIS CLASS ABOUT  
THE NEW NBC  
WEATHER  
STATION ON THE  
ROOF. NEULIEP  
TOURED THE  
NBC WEATHER  
FACILITIES AND  
GOT AN IDEA OF  
HOW THE MHS  
STATION FITS INTO  
THE WHOLE.



By:  
KIMBERLY  
ONOFF

What direction is the wind blowing? What is the wind chill? How many inches of rain did we get today? What's the temperature like outside the building?

These questions got easier to answer when NBC, Channel 5 in Chicago, placed a weather station on the roof of MHS. The compact station located on the roof is capable of monitoring numerous weather conditions.

"Dr. (Tony) Lux negotiated with Channel 5 to get the weather station for our school and the earth science curriculum. Channel 5 provided the station; our school provided the computer and wiring for the project," explained earth science teacher Jack Neuliep.

At the end of a year the school corporation will decide if keep the weather

# Weather or Not

it wants to station.

The transducers physical

analog electrical signals which are received by digitalized electrical circuits. Digital data is stored by it's integrated circuits. Then it is loaded into a permanent hard drive so that data can be taken off the 486-60 processor.

However, it's not as complicated as it sounds. NBC will be able to collect data from the station for use in their newscasts and in forming their weather forecasts.

The school also gets some use from the station. "The science classes will be able to analyze weather data to develop a better understanding of weather phenomenon. They will also gain experience with using computer data taking tools," added Neuliep.

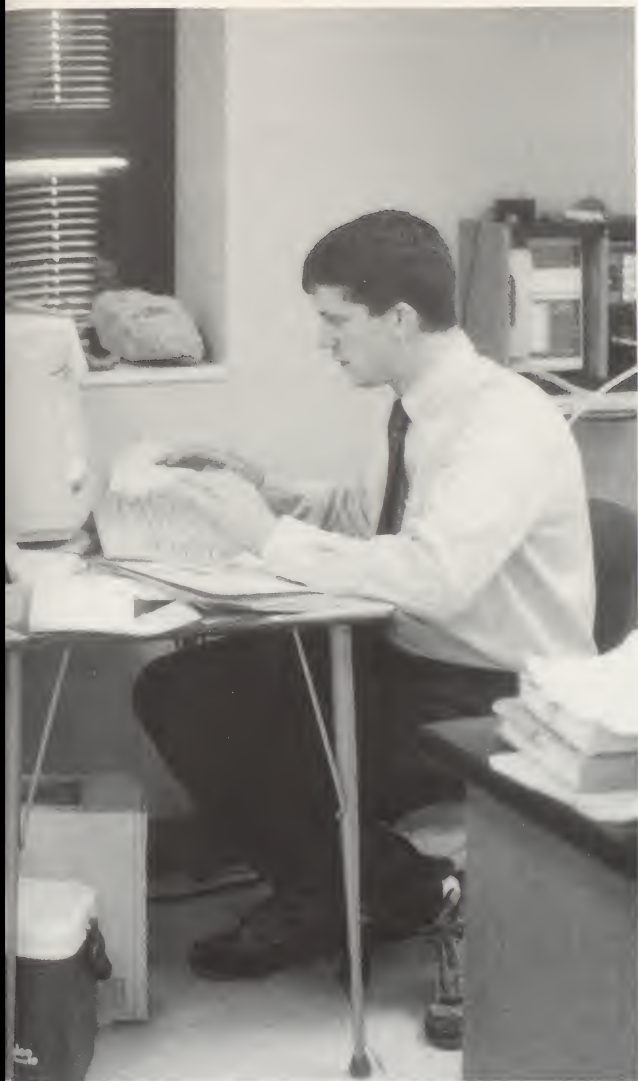
"The machine has the ability to monitor rainfall, solar radiation, wet bulb temperature, dew point, barometric pressure, heat index, wind chill, and wind direction," concluded Neuliep.

Although the weather station fit most easily into the earth science curriculum, any of the science teachers were able to use the data from the computer located in Neuliep's room.

Neuliep and Assistant Principal Bev Bashia joined representatives from five other Chicago area high schools for a luncheon to meet weather personnel and to tour NBC's facilities.







EARTH SCIENCE  
TEACHER CHRIS  
JOLL GOES INTO  
THE COMPUTER FOR  
WEATHER DATA TO  
USE WITH HIS CLASS.  
ALTHOUGH THE  
WEATHER STATION  
COMPUTER IS  
LOCATED IN  
NEULIEP'S ROOM,  
ANY OF THE  
SCIENCE TEACHERS  
CAN USE IT FOR  
THEIR CLASSES.





**Steve Adams.** Jason T.

Adler-Decathlon 12; German Club 12; JETS 11,12; Key Club 11,12; NJHS 9,10; NHS 11,12; Quiz Bowl 11,12; Spell Bowl 10,11,12; Teacher Aide 11; GAPP 11.

**Staci Renee Ahrens-FAA**

12; FHA 12; NHS 11,12; Powder Puff 10,11,12; Spanish Club 12; SAC 12; Student Govt. 11,12; Student Manager(Wrestling) 10,11,12; Teacher Aide 12. Kevin

**Albers-CPC** 12; Football 10,12;

Track 11,12. Michelle R.

Alcala.

**Carolyn Angerbauer-**

Choir 12; German Club 12;

Exchange Student. Molly

Janeen Anthony.

**Amy Armstrong. Sam**

Bairaktaris. Scott J.

Bane.

**Rebecca J. Banzen.**

Ted Baric-NJHS 9,10;

Spanish Club 11,12; Student Govt.

9; Teacher Aide 11,12. Bryan

**Joseph Barker-Band**

9,10,11,12; Basketball 9; Football

9,10,11,12; Teacher Aide 11,12.

**Rick Baskin-Basketball**

10,11,12; MPAC 11.

**Robert J. Becker.****Andrew Belush-**

Cheerleading 12; Choir 9,10,11,12;

Cross Country 11; Captain 12;

Football 9,10; JETS 11,12; MPAC

11,12; NJHS 9; NHS 11,12; Show

Choir 10,11,12; Student Govt.

9,10,11,12; Track 9,10,11,12;

VocalTeens 10,11,12. Dusty

**Anne Bennett.****Mary Rebecca Berdine-**

Choir 10; Key Club 11,12; NHS

11,12; Science Olympiad

9,10,11,12; Spell Bowl 9,10,11,12;

Super Quiz 9,10,11,12.

**Lisa Marie Beres-Band**

9,10,11; French Club 9; NHS

11,12; Teacher Aide 11; Track 9;

Pep-band 10; ISSMA 9,11.

**Joey A. Bish.****Carmen Erica Bonilla-**

Band 9,10,11,12; Key Club 12;

NHS 11,12; Pep Club 10,11,12;

Powder Puff 12; Track 9.

**Brian Bratcher-Basketball**

9; Football 9,10,11,12; Track

11,12. Teresa Briggs.

**Erica Brown-Basketball**

Office Aide 10; Powder Puff

9,10,11; Swimming 10; Teacher

Aide 10,11; Yearbook 12.

**Matthew Paul Brown.**

Baseball 9,10,11; Captain 12;

Basketball 9.

**Ryan Brown-CPC** 12; Diving

9; German Club 11,12; JETS 12;

NJHS 9; Speech Team

9,10,11,12; SAC 9; Swimming

10,11; Tennis 9,10,11,12; GAPP

10. Sean Christopher

**Buck-Band** 9,10,11,12; Soccer

9,10,11; Pep-band 11,12.

**Stephanie Marie**

Budzevski-Debate 9,10; FEA

11,12; MCATF 12; NJHS 9;

Powder Puff 9,10,12; Spell Bowl 9;

SAC 12; Student Govt. 10,11,12.

**Nicole Bulkowski-**

Decathlon 12; German Club 12;

Quiz Bowl 12; Student Govt. 9.

**Victoria Burdett-FHA** 12;

HERO 12; Revue 12; Teacher Aide

11.







**Bernard T. Burke.** Sarah Ann Burt. Choir 9,10,11,12; Powder Puff 10,11,12; Quest Club 12; Show Choir 11; Student Government 10; Vocalists 12; Yearbook 11,12. **Angelica Camacho.** Powder Puff 10. **Patricia Cantrell-CPC** 12; Golf 9,10,11,12; Newspaper 12; Prom Committee 11; Q&S 12. **David Casteel** Football 9,10,11,12.

**Briana Castle.** Choir 9,10; Powder Puff 9,10,12; Softball 9,10.

**Jennifer L. Celms.** **Chris Christoff.** JETS 9,10,11,12; NHS 11,12; Student Government 9. **Charles Chung.** Band 9,10; NHS 11,12; Science Olympiad 11,12; Spanish Club 11,12; Student Government 11,12. **Stephanie M. Cichy.** French Club 10,11,12; Pirate Radio 12; PNN 12; Q&S 12; Sunshine Society 9; Sunshine Society Officer 10,11; Teacher Aide 9,11,12; WHMS 12.

**Joseph Clemens.** **Andrea R. Coates.** **Ryan Colburn.** April L. **Cook.** Matthew S. **Cooke.** Band 9,10,11,12; Choir 9,10,11,12; Drama Club 9,10,11; Officer 12; Fall Play 11,12; Revue 11,12; Show Choir 9,10,11,12; Spring Musical 9,10,11,12; Swimming 12; Theatricals 11,12; Vocalists 11,12.

## Head Strong and Available: STEPHANIE BUDZEVSKI

What member of the class of 1996 is outgoing, friendly, extremely hot tempered, and stubborn? If you haven't guessed yet, it's Stephanie Budzевski. She believes that being her own person makes her different from other people. "I don't act like others just so that I can fit in. I'm confident and know what I'm doing with my life. No one can persuade me to do anything. I am extremely independent," Budzевski commented. After graduating Stephanie plans to attend Purdue University in West Lafayette in the fall. She wants to obtain her PhD and become a psychologist. Soon after she accomplishes this goal she wants to get married, have three children, and become extremely wealthy.

Outside of school Stephanie holds a part-time job at Bronkos in Crown Point as a cashier. In her spare time, she likes to read, shop, and hanging out with her friends. Many people are important in Stephanie's life, but no one specific person stands out. "All people are important to me. My friends especially. I encounter many people throughout the day and I think they all are important."

Stephanie is searching for a guy with dark hair and eyes. He has to be taller than her but their build doesn't matter much to her. He needs to be sensitive, thoughtful, and extremely romantic. When asked what her dream date would be like. She replied, "These days, I would be dreaming if I could find one." Stephanie has a lot of embarrassing moments to talk about, but the one that she will remember most is quite embarrassing to tell. "In seventh grade, I was at my friend's house and there were tons of people there. It was summer so all of us were hanging out outside and the guys were playing basketball. Someone shot and the ball came near me, so I picked it up and shot it. Joe Barker was behind me and he pulled my sweats down, underwear and all. I stood there speechless!"



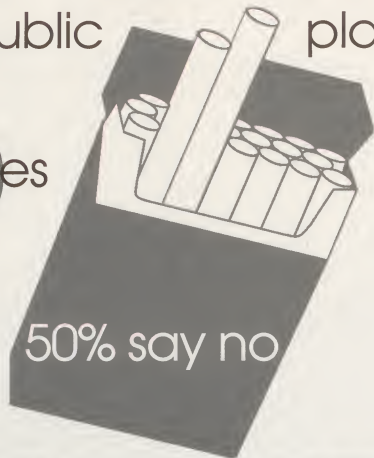


# Should smoking be banned from all public places?

50% say yes



50% say no



**Richard M. Cooper.**

**Andrew M. Crane.** Choir

9,10,11,12; Drama Club 10,11;  
Officer 12; Fall Play 11,12;  
Football 9,10; Newspaper 11,12;  
GAS 11 Officer 12; Reeve 12;  
Show Choir 10,11,12; Spring  
Musical 11,12; SADD 9; Student  
Government 10,11; Sunshine  
Society 9; Teacher Aide 12;  
Thespians Officer 12; VocalTeens  
10,11,12; Yearbook 11,12. **Erin**  
**Janine Crawford.** Art Club  
12; FHA 10,11; Powder Puff 11,12;  
Quest Club 11,12; Teacher Aide  
12. **Thomas Cseke.**  
**Rebecca J. Dancy.**



**Richard F. Deel.** Baseball  
9,10,11,12; Student  
Trainer (Football) 11; Tennis 9,10.

**Christopher James**

**DeMure.** Academic Decathlon  
11; Class Officer 9,10,11,12; CPC  
12; Football 9,10,11 Captain 12;  
Key Club 10; Morning Announcer  
12; SAC 9,10,11,12; Student  
Government 9,10,11,12; Track  
9,10,11,12; Outstanding  
Sophomore 10; Lunar Symposium  
11; Pirate Athletic Council 11,12.

**D'Andre J. Dennie.** Band  
11,12; JETS 11,12; Jazz Impact  
11,12; Pep-band 11,12.

**Melissa Dennis. Nicole**  
**K. Dennis.**

**Damon Derico. Brian**  
**DeYoung. Peter Dittoe.**

Games Club 11. **Bryan D.**

**Dixon. Venesa Doneski.**

Choir 9,10; FEA 11; French Club  
9,10,11; NHS 11,12; Office Aide  
12; Powder Puff 9,10,11,12;  
Student Government 10,11.

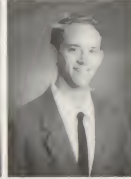




**Orley Dossiema.**  
**Jennifer Draper.**  
 Cheerleader 10; Choir 9,10,11;  
 Newspaper 12; Pom-poms 9; Show  
 Choir 11; Softball 9,10,11,12.  
**Leah Michelle Duvall**  
 BPA 11,12. **Jason Miles**  
**Dzunda**-Cheerleading 12; Choir  
 9,10,11,12; Football 9; NJHS 9;  
 Show Choir 11,12; Teacher Aide  
 12. **Dave Eaton**-Baseball 9;  
 Football 9; HERO 12; Athletic  
 Assistant 11.



**Robert W. Eaton Jr.**  
 Football 9,10,11,12; Student  
 Government 9,10,11,12; Track  
 9,10,11. **Sarah Meagan**  
**Edwards**-Key Club 10,11;  
 Natural Helpers 9,10,11,12; COE  
 12. **Rachel Ann Elliott**-  
 HERO 12; Student Services Aide 9.  
**Janelle Renee Ellison.**  
**Natanael Espinosa.**



**Rilee E. Evans. Trelles**  
**Evans**-Band 10,10,11,12;  
 Student Trainer(Football,  
 Basketball) 10,11,12; Teacher Aide  
 10,11,12. **William J.**  
**Fairbairn. Sarah**  
**Elisabeth Folz**-BPA 12;  
 Teacher Aide 11. **Eric**  
**Forster.**



**Joseph David Foster**-  
 Class Officer 11,12; FEA Officer  
 9,10,11,12; Prom King 11; Student  
 Government 11,12; Track  
 10,11,12. **Dawn Fox**  
 Basketball 9,10,11; Softball 9,10;  
 Teacher Aide 12. **Paul**  
**Francis. Martin Franco.**  
**John Franz**-German Club  
 Officer 12; Soccer 10; GAPP 10.



**Melissa C. Freeman**  
**Jill J. Frye**-Pirate Radio 12;  
 PHN 12; Swimming 10; Teacher  
 Aide 12; WMHS 12. **Angel L.**  
**Funches. Jennifer**  
**Gabriel**-Debate 9; Powder Puff  
 10,11,12; Quest Club Officer 12;  
 Spanish Club 9,12; SAC 12; SADD  
 9; Student Government 9; Student  
 Manager(Wrestling) 9,10,11,12;  
 Teacher Aide 10,12; Float  
 Decorating Committee 9,10,11,12.  
**Lori Garbus**-Environmental  
 Club 9; NJHS 11; NHS 12; Student  
 Government 10,11,12; Tennis  
 9,10,11,12.



**Juan Garfias**-Spanish Club  
 11,12. **Christina Louise**  
**Gargano**-FEA 10 Officer  
 11,12; FHA 11,12; French Club  
 9,10; Pom-poms 9,10,11;  
 Captain 12; Powder Puff 12; Prom  
 Committee 11,12; Revue 12;  
 Student Government 11,12;  
 Teacher Aide 12. **Teresa**  
**Garza** FHA 12; HERO 12;  
 Powder Puff 10; Revue 12;  
 Swimming Captain 11; Teacher  
 Aide 11. **David Gearhart.**  
**Stacie Lynn Gentry.**

**Jennifer Gilbert. Eric**

Gill-Key Club 10,11; NHS 11,12;

Teacher Aide 11. **Melissa**

**Glorioso** Choir 9,10,11; FHA

10,11,12; Flag Corps 11,12;

French Club 10,11,12; Powder Puff

10,11,12; Speech Team 10;

Student Govt. 12; Teacher Aide 12;

Winterguard 11,12. **Adrienne**

**C. Gonzalez. Kara**

**Gonzalez** Band 9,10,11,12;

Divng 9; Jazz Impact 9,10,11,12;

Revue 12; Teacher Aide 12; Pep-

band 9,10,11,12.

**Joshua Gross** Decathlon

11,12; JETS 11,12; NJHS 9; NHS

11,12; PNM 9,10,11,12; Soccer

9,10,11,12; Spanish Club 11;

Speech Team 10,11; WMHS

9,10,11,12. **Mark L.**

**Grubbs** Basketball 9; Football

9; Office Aide 10,11,12.

**Stevie S. Gruovski.**

**Nicole Guernsey.**

Basketball 9; Choir 9,10,11,12;

Softball 9,10; Teacher Aide.

**Shawn Gueyser.**

**Alicia Lorraine Gunn.**

Band 9; Powder Puff 10,11,12.

**Robert Gutierrez.**

**Barbra Guy** Band

9,10,11,12; Teacher's Aide 12.

**Tina Marie Guzik** FEA

9,10; Gymnastics 9,10,11 Captain

12; MPAC 11,12; NJHS 9,10; NHS

11,12; Powder Puff 9,10,11,12;

SADD 9; Student Govt.

9,10,11,12; Teacher Aide 12;

Tennis 9,10,11,12. **Matthew**

**J. Habrych** Baseball 9;

Basketball 9,10,11; Golf 10,11

Captain 12; MPAC 11,12; Teacher

Aide 10.

**Erica L. Hall** CPC 12; Flag

Corps 11,12; Student Govt. 12;

Teacher Aide 12; Winterguard

11,12. **Gina C. Hamp-**

**ton** Decathlon 11,12; Band

9,10,11,12; CPC 11,12; Flag

Corps 9; French Club 10 Officer

11,12; NJHS 9,10; NHS 11,12;

Speech Team 9,10,11,12; Spring

Musical 9,10,11,12; SAC 10; IG

Honors 11; Pep-band 10,11,12.

**Michael Hampton.**

**Joanna Harbrecht. Jill**

**E. Harms** Choir 9,10,11;

Cross Country 9,10,12 Captain 11;

French Club 9,10,11,12; MPAC

11,12; NHS 11,12; Powder Puff 12;

Show Choir 11; Student

Trainer(Football, Basket-

ball)10,11,12; Sunshine Society 9

Officer 10; Track 9,10,11,12.

**Christopher M.**

**Hathaway** Cheerleading 11.

**Robert Heath. Jeff C.**

**Hendricks. Clint Henry.**

Baseball 9,10,11,12; Football

9,10,11,12. **Amy**

**Hernandez.**

**Erica Yvonne Hiatt** FEA

12; FHA 12; SAC 12; Student

Govt. 12; Track 10,11,12. **Nick**

**C. Hilborne** Football 9; Office

Aide 11; Teacher Aide 11, 12.

**Kurtis S. Hill. Tanya**

**Lashawn Hill** Choir

10,11,12; Announcer 12; Student

Govt. 11. **Marc T. Holm-**

**Fell** Play 10; MCATF 10; Natural

Helpers 9,10,11,12; PNM 10,11

Producer 12; QES 10,11 Officer

12; SAC 9,10; Student Govt. 9,12

Officer 10,11; Teacher Aide 10,11,

12; WMHS Producer 10,11,12.





**Nicole Holm**-Basketball 9;  
BPA 12; Powder Puff 11,12; Revue  
12; Spanish Club 9. **James  
Hong** Key Club 11; NJHS 9,10;  
NHS 11,12; Guest Club 11;  
Spanish Club 11,12; Teacher Aide  
11. **Larvell Hood**. **Joe  
Horst**-Office Aide 11,12; Soccer  
9,10,12. **Jamie Janal**  
**Hosfeld** Environmental Club 9;  
NJHS 9,10; NHS 11,12; Powder  
Puff 10,11,12; Spanish Club 10,12.

**Jason A. Hudock**.  
**Clifford Hughes**.  
**Jeremy Hummel**.  
**Tammy B. Inthisane**.  
**Michelle Janiszewski**.

**Ben Jarvis** Diving 11,12;  
Environmental Club 12; Orchestra  
9,10,11,12; Soccer 9,10,11  
Captain 12; Tennis 9,10.  
**Rhodesa Lashawn**  
**Jefferson**-Choir 9,10,11,12;  
Pirate Radio 12; PYN 12; Powder  
Puff 9,10,11,12; Student Govt. 12;  
WMHS 12; Media Center Aide 11.  
**Joseph Jenkins**.  
**Rebecca Ann Jenkins**  
Decathlon 12; Choir 9,10,11;  
Environmental Club 9; Key Club  
10,11,12; NJHS 9,10; NHS 11,12;  
Science Olympiad 10,11,12;  
Speech Team 9,10,11,12; Indiana  
Youth Commission 12. **Judy  
Jennings** CPC 12; Choir 9,10;  
Debate 12; Drama Club 9; Fall Play  
9; Flag Corps 9,10,11,12; Key Club  
12; Newspaper 11,12; Prom  
Committee 11,12; Revue 9,10;  
SAC 11; Student Govt. 9; Officer  
10,11,12; Student Mgr. 10; Tennis  
9,10; Winterguard 9,11,12.

## Teaching Up a Storm: CHRIS HATHAWAY

Chris Hathaway, '96, is a pretty easy going guy. He listens to any kind of music except country. But he says Mary Chapin Carpenter is okay. When he's not working at Eddie Bauer, he likes to go to the thousands of restaurants in Merrillville with his friends, shoot pool at Stardust and contemplate life at Barnes and Nobles.

In the summer months he goes to the beach and Chicago. In his spare time he likes to play the piano, go to church, play tennis and golf, and travel. After graduation he wants to major in elementary education. He is able to go to student teach at Iddings for part of the day because he designed a program for his college major.

What does he hate about school? "There will always be people who think they're better than others. These people need to realize that we are in this together and their way of thinking will get them nowhere," he answers. He likes the staff here at MHS because they will go out of their way to help individuals in different ways.

He describes himself as being ambitious. He focuses on something he wants and does anything to achieve it. Chris says, "God has influenced me the most by giving me a dream of becoming a teacher and so many other blessings. I know it is Him who helps me reach for this goal, and He will one day allow me to achieve it." Chris has a lot of faith in God. That may explain why his grandmother stopped him in time when he and his cousin poured chemicals down the drain and were getting ready to throw a match with it. He believes that he got away with almost blowing up the whole block.

Samantha Parker





# Should automatic weapons be banned from the U.S.?



64% say yes

36% say no

**Jason Jezuit**-Band 9,10,11,12; NHS 11,12; Student Govt. 9,10,11,12; Swimming 9; Winterguard Writer 11,12; Pep-band 9,10,11,12. **Martin Johnson**. **Roger Johnson**-Band 9,10,11,12; Choir 12; Drama Club 9,10,11,12; Fall Play 9,10,11,12; Jazz Impact 9,10,11; Pirate Radio 10,11,12; PNH 10,11,12; Revue 9,10,11,12; Show Choir 12; Spring Musical 9,10,11,12; WMHS 10,11 Producer 12; Auditorium Mgr 9,10,11,12; Pep-band 9,10,11. **Jason Josleyn**-FHA 12; Teacher Aide 11. **Shannon M. Josleyn**.

**Eric J. Jostes**-Football 9,10,11; Golf 9,10,11,12; Natural Helpers 10,11,12. **Sreten Jovanovic**. **Bethany Jusko**-Choir 9,10,11,12; FCA 11; Homecoming Court (Football) 12; (Basketball) 9,10; PNH 12; Powder Puff 9,10,11,12; From Queen 11; Revue 12; Show Choir 11,12; SAC 9; Student Govt. 9,10,11,12; WMHS 12. **Mark T. Kaiser**-HERO 12. **David Kamano**-Baseball 9,10,11,12; Cross Country 9,10,11,12; JETS 12; Key Club 11,12; NHS 9,10,11; NHS 11 Officer 12; Science Olympiad 11,12.

**Marie L. Kaminsky**-Band 9,10,11,12; Environmental Club 11,12; FHA 12; Flag Corps 10,11,12; Student Govt. 9,10,11 Officer 12; Pep-band 9,10,11,12; Winterguard 9,11,12. **Lisa L. Kanouse**-Choir 9,10,11,12; Key Club 10,11 Officer 12; NHS 11,12; Science Olympiad 11,12; Show Choir 11,12. **Apostolis Karas**. **Sarah L. Kathcart**. **Jessica Keehn**.







**Aubrey Kelley** CPC 12; Choir 9,10; Soccer 11,12; Student Trainer (Football, Basketball) 10,11,12; Teacher Aide 10,11,12; Track 9,10,11,12; Volleyball 9. **Harriette Kelly, Deborah Kings** Class Officer 9,10; Drama Club 9,10; Fall Play 9; French Club 9,10,11; Officer 12; MCATP 9,10; NJHS 9,10; NHS 11,12; Orchestra 9,10,11,12; Powder Puff 12; Speech Team 9,10; SAC 9,10,11; Student Govt. 9,10; Tennis 9,10,11,12. **Kimberly Kintz** Key Club 10. **Joshua Kirby**

**David J. Kirken** Basketball 9,10; Cross Country 9; MCATP 12; Spanish Club 9; SAC 12; Student Govt. 12; Track 9,10,11,12.

**Richard L. Knight** Baseball 9,10; Basketball 9,10. **Robert Komar, Jamie Komenda** Outreach Program 9,10,11; Powder Puff 10. **David Kordys** Decathlon 12; Key Club 10 Officer 11; Natural Helpers 9,10,11,12; Quiz Bowl 12; Revue 11; Speech Team 9,10,11,12; Student Govt. 9; Tennis 9.

**Michael J. Kostelnik**. **Melinda Kroski** Powder Puff 9,12. **Tricia Kuhn**. **Marty Kuntz**. **Jeremiah Lagalo**.

**Richard T. Larson** Quiz Bowl 11,12; SAC 10; Academic Super Bowl 12. **Dana LaRue** BSA 12; Powder Puff 9,10; Revue 12. **Ami Lash** NHS 11,12; Student Government 11; Teacher Aide 12; Morning Announcer 12. **Henry Victor Lech III** Baseball 9,10,11,12; Football 11. **Scott Eric Lee** Jazz Impact 10,11,12; JETS 12; NHS 11,12; Spell Bowl 11; Academic Super Bowl 10,12; Honors Study Hall 12; Pirate Tutor 12.

**Angela M. Lehman**. **Aaron D. Lewis** Band 9,10,11,12; Jazz Impact 9,10,11,12; NHS 11,12; Teacher Aide 12. **Nicholas Lile**. **Timothy Ian Little** Academic Decathlon 11; Baseball 9,10,11,12; Choir 11; Revue 11,12; Show Choir 11; Student Government 9,11,12; Teacher Aide 12. **Kimberly A. Lobody**.

**Jason Lockhart** Builder's Club 11,12; Office Aide 10,12. **Robert Long**. **Bret Macaluso**. **Elizabeth C. Macy** HERO 12; Powder Puff 9; Teacher Aide 10. **Marianne Maj** Cross Country 11 Captain 12; Homecoming Court (Football) 12; Homecoming Princess (Basketball) 11; MPAC 11,12; Orchestra 9,10,11,12; Powder Puff 9,10,11,12; Track 9,10,11,12.

**Aaron Malerich**-Band  
9, 10, 11, 12; Cross Country 10, 11,  
12; Jazz Impact 9, 10, 11, 12; MPAC  
12; Swimming 9, 10, 11, 12; Pep-  
band 9, 10, 11, 12. **Lisa Malo**-  
Basketball 9; CPC 12; Office Aide  
12; Powder Puff 9, 10, 11, 12; Student  
Government 10; Teacher Aide 12.  
**Jason G. Malocha, Paul  
Mandich**-Key Club 11.

**Melissa M. Manojlovic**  
FEA 11; FEA Officer 12; German  
Club 9, 10, 11, 12; NJHS 9, 10, 11,  
12; Newspaper 12; Powder Puff  
12; QGS 12; Science Olympiad 9,  
10; SADD 9; Student Government  
11, 12; GAPP 10.

**Megan Manoski**-NHS 11, 12;  
Student Trainer (Football) 9.

**Nicholas G. Marchuk**  
Cross Country 12; Office Aide 12;  
Wrestling 9, 11, 12. **John  
Maretich** Baseball 9, 10, 12;

**Kristen Ann  
Marler** Science Olympiad 10;  
Volleyball 9, 10. **Jonathan  
Marlow**-Key Club 11, 12; NJHS  
11; NHS 12.

**Eric James Martin**-Football  
9, 10; Office Aide 12; Spanish Club  
9, 10. **Phil Martin** Baseball  
10, 11, 12; Basketball 9. **Bobby  
Martinez** Baseball 9, 10, 11, 12;  
Key Club 10, 11, 12. **Keith H.  
Mashburn, Sean R.  
McConnell** Teacher Aide 11.

**Sean William**

**McConnell**-FCA 10, 11, 12; Golf  
9, 10, 11, 12; MPAC 11; Spanish Club  
10; Student Government; Tennis  
10, 11, 12. **Melissa Lee**

**McCory**-Cheerleading 9, 10, 11  
Captain 12; Choir 9, 10, 11, 12; MPAC  
11, 12; Show Choir 10, 11, 12; SADD  
9; Teacher Aide 11; Vocal/Teens 11.

**Steve McFarland**-CWC 12;  
Orchestra 9, 10, 11, 12. **Keith A.  
McIndoo** Baseball 10; Teacher  
Aide 12. **Karen McKay**-HERO  
11, 12; Key Club 10.

**William McKee**-Band  
9, 10, 11, 12; Jazz Impact 11, 12.

**Jamie Marie McKenney**  
Newspaper 11, 12; Powder Puff 10;  
Prom Committee 12; QGS 11  
Officer 12; Student Manager  
(Wrestling) 9, 10; Teacher Aide 12;  
Yearbook 11 Editor-in-chief 12.

**Amy Meissler**-Teacher Aide  
11. **James Dean Metros**-  
Student Government 9; Tennis  
9, 10, 11 Captain 12; Track 9, 10;  
Wrestling 9, 10; Student Athletic  
Council. **Richard J. Mezo.**

**Julie A. Milak**-Newspaper 12.

**Brandon Millard.**

**Jason Miller** Basketball  
9, 10, 11; Football 9, 10, 12; MPAC  
11, 12; Track 9, 10, 11, 12. **Ryan  
Miller** Baseball 9, 10, 11, 12;  
Basketball 9, 10; Cross Country 9;  
Football 10. **Sonya E.**

**Mitchell**-Band 9, 10, 11, 12;  
Basketball 9, 10, 11; Cross Country  
12; Powder Puff 11, 12; Track  
9, 10, 11, 12.





**Jason A. Mohol** Band 9.  
**Kelli Lynn Moore** Key Club  
 12; Newspaper 11 Editor-in-chief  
 12; Pirate Radio 10,12; PNN 11,12;  
 Q&S 11 Officer 12; Spanish Club  
 9,10; SAC 12; Student Trainer  
 (Basketball, Foot-ball) 10,11;  
 WMHS 11 Producer 12; Yearbook  
 12. **Willena Y. Moore.**  
**Chris Muvceski** Basketball  
 9; Foot-ball 9,10,11,12; Track  
 11,12. **Linda Caryn Mysli-**  
**wiec** Environmental Club 11;  
 Homecoming Court (Football) 12;  
 Homecoming Court (Basketball) 11;  
 Homecoming Princess (Basketball)  
 9,10; Powder Puff 11, 12; Softball  
 9,10,11,12; Student Govt. 9, 10,  
 Volleyball 9,10.  
**Scott Mytyk** Games Club 9,  
 10,11; NHS 11,12; Natural Helpers  
 11,12; Newspaper 12; Q&S 12;  
 Spanish Club 9 Officer 10,11, 12;  
 Speech Team 10, 11; SADD 9,10,  
 11; Student Mgr. (Basketball) 12.  
**Brian Joseph Neely.**  
 Basketball 9; Football 9,10,12;  
 Track 9. **Brandon Michael**  
**Todd Nelson** Golf 10; Student  
 Govt. 11; Tennis 9,10. **Claudia**  
**Corinne Nerl** Newspaper  
 11,12; Q&S 11, 12; Volleyball  
 9,10. **Shaun Newman.**  
 Football 10,11,12.  
**Kevin Thomas Newton.**  
 Choir 9,10,11,12; Drama Club  
 10,11 Officer 12; Fall Play 10,11,  
 12; PNN 11,12; Q&S 12; Revue  
 10, 11,12; Show Choir 10,11,12;  
 Spring Musical 10,11,12; Thespians  
 10,11 Officer 12; Vocal Teams 10,  
 11,12; WMHS 11,12; Yearbook 12.  
**Matt Nichols.** **Jason**  
**Novakovich.** **Jennifer A.**  
**Nowak.** **Erik Obregon.**

## One in a Million \$\$: BRIAN NEELY

What makes Brian Neely different from everybody else? He says it is because he does not get embarrassed like everybody else. Brian also describes himself as outgoing and funny. He enjoys finding the little things that irritate people and picking at them.

His many interests are his studies, his girlfriend, his friends, music, and sleeping. "In my spare time I mostly work out, play a sport, or just chill at the crib." When he's not doing that he's hanging out at his friends' houses or hanging out at "the one and only Stardust." Brian's friends are very important to him. He definitely has time for all of them since he doesn't have a job. He only works during the summer at Hidden Lake Park.

Brian's favorite part of school is lunchtime and seeing everyone in the halls. "What I hate most about school is when the lunch ladies are crabby."

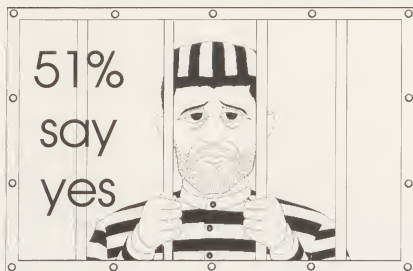
When looking for a girlfriend, Brian keeps an eye out for a good personality. She also has to be somewhat pretty and intriguing. But only two words can describe his perfect dream date- Kathy Hodgetts.

One of the things Brian will miss most about high school is all the friends he made. "My most memorable moment took place after the football team lost to Crown Point in the Sectionals. Realizing that it was the last time I would ever take off the uniform. Realizing there would be no more practices, meetings, or meals."

Brian's plans for after high school are to go to Purdue University. He plans to study Computer Integrated Manufacturing Technology. What does this outgoing guy hope to accomplish in life? "My goals in life are to complete high school and college. Then (I'll) get married and win the lotto."



# Are your parents too over protective?



48% say no

## Kimberly Marie Onoff.

Class Officer 12; FHA 12; Homecoming Court (Football) 12; Newspaper 11, 12; Powder Puff 9, 10, 11, 12; Student Govt. 9, 10, 12; Tennis 9, 10, 11, 12; Yearbook 12.

## Carla M. Ortega, Adam Orze.

Debate 9, 10; French Club 12; Key Club 12.

## Rebecca Ann Paine

Band 9, 10, 11, 12; Student Govt. 9, 10, 11, 12; Tennis 9, 10; Yearbook 12.

## Maria Papadakis

Choir 9, 10; NHS 11, 12; Powder Puff 9, 10, 11, 12; Spanish Club 12; SAC 12; Student Govt. 10, 11, 12.

## Brandon M. Papadatos.

Anna Papalazarou Newspaper 12; Powder Puff 11, 12; Student Govt. 11, 12.

## Sarah Elizabeth Parduhn-NJHS

9, 10; NHS 11, 12; Revue 11.

## Candice Marie Parker.

Cross Country 9, 10; Orchestra 9, 10, 11, 12; Pirate Radio 12; PNN 11, 12; Q & S 12; Soccer 9, 11; Spring Musical 9, 11; Student Govt. 11, 12; WMHS 11 Producer 12; Yearbook 11, 12; All-State Orchestra 12.

## Michelle Parker.

Samantha A. Parker. Yearbook 12.

## Lori Pavlopoulos

Choir 9, 10; Powder Puff 9, 10, 12; Spanish Club 10, 12; Student Govt. 10, 12.

## Tanya Rae Pawl

Newspaper 12; Q&S 12; Yearbook 12.

## Stephanie M. Peek

NJHS 9; Soccer 11, 12; Track 9, 10, 11, 12.

## Megan Pendley

MPAC 11, 12; Orchestra 9, 10, 11, 12; Swimming 9, 10, 11; Captain 12; Track 9, 10, 11, 12.







**Christina Peterson.**

**Garry L. Peterson.**

**Mario Petsalis. William**

**Preston Phillips. Basketball**

**11,12: JETS 12. Christine**

**Dustyn Pierce. Diving 9,10;**

**Quest Club 10; Student Trainer**

**(Football, Basketball) 11.**

**Henry Pimentel Soccer 9,**

**10,11 Captain 12. Wrestling 9,**

**Melissa Plantz. Larence**

**Piomaritis. Melissa**

**Marie Potts. Choir 9,10,11,12;**

**German Club 12; Powder Puff 9,10,**

**11,12; Show Choir 12; Swimming**

**9,11. Bridgette Prashchak.**

**Cheerleading 9,10,11; German Club**

**9, HERO 12; NJHS 9; Powder Puff**

**9,10,11; Quest Club 9; SADD 9,10;**

**Student Govt. 9,10,11; Volleyball 9.**

**April Lynn Pratscher.**

**Cheerleading 9,10,11 Captain 12;**

**German Club 11 Officer 12; Home-**

**coming Queen(Football) 12; Home-**

**coming Court(Basketball) 11; Prom**

**Court 11; Soccer 11; Student Mgr. 12;**

**(Wrestling) 10,11,12; Track 9,10,11.**

**12: GAPP 10. Kevin D.**

**Preuss. Football 9,10,11,12;**

**Track 9,10. Jennifer L.**

**Price. Band 9,10,11,12; Drama**

**Club 11,12; Flag Corps 9,10,11,12;**

**French Club 11,12; NHS 11,12;**

**Spring Musical 11,12; Student Govt.**

**10,11,12; Winterguard 9,11; Pep-**

**band 9,10,11,12; Winter Drumline**

**12. Rachel Price. Basketball**

**9,10,11,12; Choir 9,10,11,12; French**

**Club 10,11,12; MPAC 11,12; NJHS**

**9,10, NHS 11,12; Show Choir 11,12;**

**Track 9; VocalTeens 12; Volleyball**

**9,10,11, Captain 12. Ronda**

**Price. Basketball 9,10, 11,12;**

**Choir 9,10,11; French Club 10,11,**

**12; NJHS 9,10; NHS 11,12; Show**

**Choir 11; Track 9,10; VocalTeens**

**11; Volleyball 9,10,11, Captain 12.**

**Tania Prough. Band 9,10,11.**

**12; Flag Corps 9; Gymnastics 9,10;**

**Jazz Impact 8,10,11,12; Powder**

**Puff 11; SADD 9,10,11; Swimming**

**12; Track 9; Yearbook 10,11,12;**

**Pep-band 9,10,11,12; Winter Drum-**

**line 11,12. Bart Pruzin. Joe**

**Pustelnik. Miroslav**

**Radiceski. Carmen**

**Ramirez.**

**Bryan William Ramos.**

**Jeff Rangeloff. Football 9.**

**Anthony J. Reddix.**

**Jason Thomas Reed. cWC**

**11; Drama Club 10,11,12; Fall Play**

**12; NJHS 9; NHS 11,12; Natural**

**Helpers 11,12; News 11,12; Speech**

**Team. 9,10,11,12; Spring Musical**

**10,11; Thespians 12. Krystal**

**Elizabeth Renehan.**

**Basketball 9,10; FEA 12; FHA 12;**

**Powder Puff 11,12; SAC 12; SADD**

**9; Student Govt. 11,12; Track 10,12.**

**Lynn Reyes. Powder Puff 11,**

**12; Spanish Club 9; Speech Team**

**10. SADD 9; Student Mgr. (Foot-**

**ball) 11; Math Club 9. Amanda**

**Ann Richardson. Newspaper**

**10,11 Editor-in-chief 12; Powder**

**Puff 9,10,11,12; Student Govt. 12;**

**Yearbook 11,12. Jason M.**

**Thomas Rico. Decathlon 12;**

**NJHS 9; Orchestra 9,10,11,12;**

**Spell Bowl 10,11,12; Spring Musical**

**9; GAPP 10,11; Super Bowl 6,12.**

**Deirdre K. Riddle. Basket-**

**ball 9,10,11,12; MPAC 11,12;**

**Orchestra 9,10,11,12; Softball 11;**

**Volleyball 9,10, 11 Captain 12.**

**Jason Rivera. Soccer 11;**

**Wrestling 10,11.**



# Amado Rosas.

Margaret Runion-HERO

12; Newspaper 12; Pamela

Jean Ruschak-Band 9,10,

11,12; Flag Corps 9,10,11,12;

MPAC 11,12; NHS 11,12; Student

Govt. 9,10,11,12; Officer 11;

Tennis 9,10,11,12; Winterguard 9;

Maggie Leigh Samson-

Key Club 9,10; Officer 11,12;

Powder Puff 9,10,11,12;

Christopher Sanchez.

Jaime Lynn

Santeramo-Choir 9,10; MPAC

11,12; Powder Puff 10,11,12;

Softball 9,10,11,12; Volleyball 9.

Kristen Santos-Drama Club

9; Key Club 10; MCATF 12; Powder

Puff 10; Spanish Club 10; Speech

Team 10; Tennis 9.

Aleksandar Sapkar.

Brian P. Schiefer-Baseball

9,10,11; Captain 12; Football

9,10,11,12; JETS 12; NJHS 9,10;

NHS 11; Officer 12; Travis

Schmidt-Basketball 9,10,11

Captain 12; Prom Court 11; Track

9.

Bradley James

Schulte-Baseball 9,10,11

Captain 12; Basketball 9,10.

Brennan Seydel.

Tayona Shadwick-Choir

11,12; Powder Puff 11,12; Track

11,12; VocalTeens 12.

Monica Anne Shaffer.

Decathlon 10,11,12; CPC 12;

French Club 9,10,11,12; NJHS

10; NHS 11,12; Quiz Bowl 10,11,

12; Science Olympiad 10; Super

Quiz 10.

Heather R.

Shawver.

Aaron Shelton-Football

9,10,11,12; Wrestling 9,10,11,12.

Kimberly M. Sherwood.

Solomon Shih-NHS 11,12.

Wendy Shotts-Choir 9,10,

11; Show Choir 12. Sergei

Shukan.

Mathew Siecker-Baseball

9,10,11,12; Football 9,10,11

Captain 12. Theresa

Sievers-Band 9,10; Flag Corps

9,10,11; NJHS 9; Powder Puff 11;

Softball 9; Speech Team 10;

Student Govt. 9,10,11,12; Volley-

ball 9,10; Wrestling Scorekeeper

10. Andrea Simpson-

Basketball 9,10; Choir 9,10; NJHS

9; Soccer 11; Captain 12; MPAC

11,12. Jason Simpson-

Football 9,10,11,12; Track

9,10,11,12. Carl Sims.

Melissa K. Skratsky.

Decathlon 11,12; CPC 12; Flag

Corps 10; French Club 9; Officer

10,11,12; MCATF 10,11; NJHS

9,10; NHS 11,12; Orchestra

9,10,11,12; Quiz Bowl 10,11,12;

Science Olympiad 10; Speech Team

9,10; SAC 9,10,11,12; Student

Govt. 9,10; Tennis 9,10,11.

Jaime Smith. Brian

James Snelson-Band 9,10,

11,12; Drum Major 11,12; Games

Club 10; Jazz Impact 9,10,11,12;

NHS 12; Pirate Radio 10,11,12;

PHN 10,11,12; GDS 10,11; Officer

12; WMHS Producer 10,11,12;

Pep-band 9,11,12; Pirate Radio

Program Director 12. Amy

Sopczak-Golf 9,10,11,12;

Gymnastics 9,10,11,12; NHS 11,

12; Softball 9,10,11,12; Student

Trainer (Football) 9.

Eric D.

Sowell.





**Natalie Ann Spetter.**  
Basketball 9; Choir 9; Drama Club 9; French Club 9,10; Powder Puff 9,10; Softball 9,10; Student Govt. 9,10,11,12; Student Manager (Football, Basketball) 10,12.

**Matthew Stage.** Environmental Club 11,12; FCA 11 Officer 12; Football 9,10,11,12; JETS 12; Key Club 12; Science Olympiad 9,10; Wrestling 9,10.

**Stamata. La'Shana**

Stanley-Choir 11,12; Powder Puff 11,12; VocalTeens 12. **Angela D. Stapinski.** Choir 9,10; Environmental Club 9,10; German Club 9,10,12; Officer 11; HERO 12; Natural Helpers 11,12; Powder Puff 9,10,11; Speech Team 9,10; Student Govt. 9,10; Swimming 10.

**Marino Stath.** Baseball 10,11,12; Basketball 9; Football 9,10,11; Captain 12; MPAC 12; Morning Announcer 12; Prom Court 11; Track 9.

**Melissa Stefanski.** Band 9,10,11,12; PHA 11 Officer 12; Flag Corps 9,10; Captain 11,12; Student Govt.

**John R. Stomp.**  
**Bryan P. Stone.** William R. Summar.

**Crissy Summers.** Key Club 10,11,12. **Matthew P. Sur.**

**Jared L. Tabor.** Cross Country 11,12; NHS 11,12; Wrestling 9,10; Captain 11,12.

**Lisa E. Taylor.** Choir 9,10,11,12; Drama Club 11 Officer 12; NHS 9; NHS 11,12; Powder Puff 10,11,12; Revue 11,12; Science Olympiad 10,11,12; Speech Team 9,10,11,12; Spring Musical 11; Tennis 9; Track 10; VocalTeens 11,12. **Tracy L. Taylor.**

## Trying To Fit The Shoes: LISA MALO

Friendly, adventurous, open, and up-front are just a few words Lisa Malo uses to describe herself. Anyone who knows Malo agrees that her easygoing and sincere attitude are what separate her from many people.

Why does Malo like this year of high school? Because it's her last year of course. Immature people, getting up early, and putting up with gossip are some of the things that she dislikes the most about school. In her spare time Malo enjoys hanging out with friends and shopping. Whenever she has a break, trying to find enough time to sleep and going to work are her priorities. Malo also likes to listen to house and dance mixes while hanging out anywhere she can "chill" with her friends. Malo considers her Grandpa Llanes, her mom, and "of course my best friend Stephanie Budzevski," to be the most important people in her life.

Although she is constantly on the go, Malo still is on the lookout for a guy who is romantic, sincere, honest, and has a quality few women look for - nice shoes. After she finds the perfect man, Malo needs the perfect date. When asked about her idea of a dream date, Malo commented, "A romantic picnic(candles and all), at a beautiful park, a trip to the opera followed by a carriage ride that ends with a gentle kiss on the cheek."

Like most seniors Malo has goals for herself and seems to have her future well planned. Malo's short term goals include finishing up high school while making her senior year one to remember. After high school Malo will attend Vincennes University where she plans to major in respiratory therapy and minor in nursing. Malo would also like to join the Peace Corps for a year or two, just to try and make a difference.

In all, Malo's carefree, loving, and honest outlook on life sets her aside from most. While she says, "I'm always up for crazy fun," it doesn't stop her from staying herself and never failing to "tell it like it is."



Amanda Richardson

# Should capital punishment still be legal?

64% say yes



35% say no

## Aarthi Tejuja-Art Club 11.

MCTAF 11,12; NJHS 9,10;  
Newspaper 12; PPH 12; Powder  
Puff 10; Q&S 11,12; Revue 12;  
Spanish Club 9,10,11; Student  
Govt. 10,11,12; Teacher Aide 12;  
Tennis 9; WJMS Producer 12;  
Yearbook 11.

## Terry, William J.

Thomas, Kelly Thorn-  
Choir 9,10,11,12; Key Club 11  
Officer 12; Show Choir 10,11,12;  
SADD 9; Student Govt. 9,10;  
Teacher Aide 12.

## Jessica C. Tokar.

Office Aide 10; Teacher  
Aide 11.

## Maria Trajkov-cpc 12; Choir 9,10; French Club 10,12; Office Aide 12; Powder Puff 9,10,11,12;

## Student Govt. 11,12. Kristy

Lynn Trock-PEA Officer  
11,12; FHA 12; German Club  
9,10,11; Pom-poms 9,10,11  
Captain 12; Powder Puff 12;  
Student Govt. 9, 10,11,12.

## Rachel Lee Turbyfill.

HERO 12; Angelina  
Turkaleski, Michael  
Tyrikos.

## Teddy Umphress-Cross

Country 11,12; Wrestling 9,10,11  
Captain 12.

## Christina

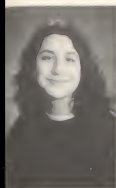
Underwood-FHA 10,11,12;  
Powder Puff 9,10,11,12; SADD 9;  
Teacher Aide 12.

## Kelly M.

## Ofotka. Ryan Valentine.

Football 9,10,11,12; Wrestling  
9,10,12. Lisa Van Berg-  
FHA 12; French Club 10,11,12;  
Sunshine Society 9,10 Officer 11;  
Office Aide 9,10.





**Toulia T. Vasilopoulos.**  
Class Officer 9,10; French Club 9 Officer 10,11,12; NHS 9,10; NHS 11,12; Orchestra 9,10; Powder Puff 11; Speech Team 9,10; SAC 9,10; Student Govt. 9,10; Tennis 9,10,11; Volleyball 9,10  
**Marc Vassallo** German Club 9,10; SAC 9; Teacher Aide 12.  
**Michael Villanueva** Cross Country 11; Football 9,10; MPAC 11,12; Wrestling 9,10,11; Captain 12  
**Jason J. Vlastic.**  
**Jason Vurva.**



**Nigel Walton.**  
**LaShonda Washington.**  
**Daniel Waskosky.**  
**Jason Thomas Wayte.**  
Office Aide 10; Wrestling 10.  
**Kelly Webster** German Club 10 Officer 11,12; NHS 9; Powder Puff 11,12; Softball 10,11,12; SADD 9; Track 9; Volleyball 9,10; GAPP 10.



**Scott Ronald Wellestat**  
Office Aide 9; Private Radio 12; PHN 12; Teacher Aide 11,12; WMHS 12.  
**Sarah Wesley** Choir 9,10,11,12; Gymnastics 9,10; Pom-poms 9,10; Powder Puff 9,10,11; Softball 9,10; Teacher Aide 12.  
**Corey West** Choir 9; FCA 11,12; Football 9,10,11,12; Track 9,10.  
**Tammie M. White.**  
**Antwone Whiteside.**



**Falisa Wiggins.**  
**Christal Lynn Williams**  
Band 9,10; COE 12; Paxton  
**J. Williams** Band 9,10,11,12; Class Officer 11,12; Jazz Impact 9,10,11; NHS 11 Officer 12; Revue 11,12; Speech Team 10,11,12; Student Government 11,12; Pep band 9,10,11,12  
**Samantha Williams.**  
**Terrance J. Williamson.**



**Alyssa Christina Wright.** Cheerleading Captain 9,10; Class Officer 10,11,12; Debate 9; French Club 9,10,11,12; Homecoming Court (Basketball) 10; NHS 9,10; NHS 11 Officer 12; Powder Puff 11,12; Prom Court 11; Softball 9,10,11; SAC 10,11; Student Govt. 9,10,11,12; Teacher Aide 12; VocalTeens 9.  
**Angela C. Wusik** Art Club 11; Class Officer 12; Cross Country 10; NHS 9,10; NHS 11,12; Natural Helpers 11,12; Spanish Club 9,10 Officer 11,12; Student Govt. 11,12; Sunshine Society 9,10,11; Teacher Aide 9,10,11,12.  
**Eric Youngren.**  
**Jonathan Zakutansky.**  
**Rebecca J. Zolodz.** Band 9,10; Flag Corps 9,10; Teacher Aide 11.



**Tanja Zdraveski** CPC 12; Choir 9,10; NHS 11,12; Office Aide 12; Powder Puff 9,10,11,12; Spanish Club 10; Student Govt. 9,10,11,12.  
**Christine Danielle Zorich** Band 9; BPA 12; FHA 10,11; Flag Corps 9; Office Aide 12; Student Govt. 9,10,11; Teacher Aide 10,11,12.



"Could it be razor burn?" Dave Casteel shows a little leg before the Powder Puff game.

Senior girls estatically pose for a team picture after their defeat of the juniors.

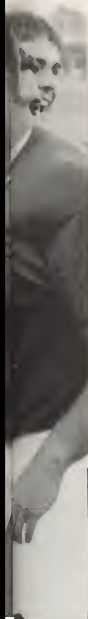


It was no trip to the movies for Clint Henry during football season. Henry was one of six injured starters for the Pirates. He spent much of the season on crutches.

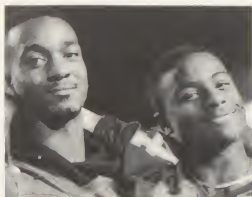
Seniors  
156







"This won't hurt a bit!" Alyssa Wright donates blood in MHS' annual blood drive. The date of the Heartland Blood drive was changed to December because supplies are low and the need is great over the holidays.



Support of fellow teammates is always a plus. Nigel Walton and Ma'Rion Anderson share a little heart to heart before one of the games.



"The commissioner is calling!" Jimmy Metros, in a Batman-like stance, as he spreads his wings, cheers on the Pirates during the homecoming football game against Andean.

## Activity Abbreviations

- BPA - Business Professionals of America
- CPC - Commencement Planning Committee
- FCA - Fellowship of Christian Athletes
- FEA - Future Educators of America
- FHA - Future Homemakers of America
- MCATF - Multi-Cultural Awareness Task Force
- MPAC - Merrillville Pirate Athletic Council
- NHS - National Honor Society
- NJHS - National Junior Honor Society
- PNN - Pirate News Network
- Q & S - Quill and Scroll
- SAC - Student Advisory Council
- SADD - Students Against Driving Drunk
- WMHS - Broadcasting Club

## Seniors Not Pictured

Arthur Elias Aguilera.  
Willis W. Alexander.  
Amber N. Allen. Annesha Armstead. Keith Allen Bailey. Kathleen Balog. Dustin Paul Barnett.  
Tanoah Beavers. Joel L. Binkley. Jamie A. Bladen.  
Eric Boyer. Randy Brant.  
Tomishia Brown. Tyrone Brown. Roy Buckley.  
Ryan J. Cimbaljevich.  
Shaun Cole. Nicole Cross.  
Megan M. Cutler. Joy M. Dunham. Richard Escobedo. Tony Ferguson.  
Lisandra Fernandez. Roger O. Fleming. Robert Adam Flores. Froylan Guzman Jr.  
Steven Guzman. David Hammer. David Harvey.

Trevor P. Hennington.  
Timothy L. Holdeman.  
Carmen Horton. Jasmin Anette Horton. Christopher Hutfilz. Damon C. Jenkins.  
Cheryl Anne John. Felipe Jones. Kevin S. Keightley.  
Janet L. Kiraly. William T. Koldus. Keith Krajewski.  
Corey Lake-Art Club 10; Diving 9,11; German Club 9.  
Kenneth Lange. Aaron LaPlante. Joshua Larson.  
Ilija Lazoski. Michael Levy.  
Michael Lindsay. Max Liptak.  
John Logothetis. Richard A. Looney. David Lopez-Football 11; Homecoming Court (Basketball) 11; Key Club 11; Track 11,12.  
Powder Puff Coach 12. Justin S. Lyons. Dave Maldonado. Ann

Marie Malec. Bradley Martin.  
William P. Mearna. Nicole Melicic. Choir 9. Robert A. Moravec. Alexander Neskoski. Harley Niles.  
Kosta Nuses. Isidro G. Ortiz.  
Ian J. Paris. Joey A. Ree.  
Ryan Risselman-Baseball 12; Drug & Alcohol Free Group 9,10,11.  
Peter Rodriguez. Michael Rothgeb-Baseball 9,10; Football 9,10,11,12; Wrestling 9.  
Jeremy Schwandt- Football 9,10,11,12; Wrestling 9,10,11,12.  
David Sierkowski. Billy Smith.  
Karita Sormunen.  
Sandra Soto. Thomas Stanzione. Kenneth M. Stobaugh. Erin A. Thompson.  
Ernie M. Tinoco. Matt Trajkovski. Khanh Vu.  
Sharetta Williams. Roger Lyle Wilson.  
Damian N. Wood. Angel Zamarron.

# Does the school need to change their menus for lunch?

81% say yes

18% say no



David Aimone  
Keith Albee  
Thomas Aliff  
Amber Allaman  
Twanna Allen  
Jessica Anderson  
Ma'Rion Anderson  
Angela Andreatos



Yasmin Aponte  
Frank Arambula  
Amanda Argue  
Jamie Bailey  
Brad Balcerak  
Nick Balcerak  
Jody Bane  
Tim Banham



Nathan Banks  
Ryan Barman  
Emily Barnett  
Thomas Barry  
Tamara Beatty  
John Becker  
James Bergstrom  
Jennifer Berkman



Christina Berry  
Angela Bertolo  
Lehman Best  
Theodore Bewley  
Stacia Bish  
Elisabeth Black  
Jovan Blacknell  
Nicole Blondeel





Valerie Boromisa  
Andrew Bowden  
David Boylen  
Amber Braden  
Robert Branham  
Nicholas Brasovan  
Rachel Bright  
Melissa Brothers



Jeremiah Brown  
Stacey Brown  
Yoleyah Brown  
Marc Bruner  
Jeff Buchko  
Amanda Buda  
Steven Bugg  
Kathryn Burdett



Kristine Burke  
Robert Burkus  
Jason Byars  
Jasmine Calo  
Sarah Camery  
Chris Camisa  
Ryan Campbell  
Robert Carlson



Michael Cesare  
Vesna Cesljarev  
Larry Chandler  
Melanie Chandler  
Corby Clark  
Matt Clark  
Melissa Clark  
Robert Clark



Gwendolyn Cole  
Lena Cole  
Nicole Cole  
Randall Collins  
Cara Colon  
Doris Conn  
Natalie Conner  
Cherese Connolly



Alex Coppinger  
Michael Coughlin  
Ryan Creviston  
Ariana Cruz  
Cheo Cruz  
Sonja Damjanoski  
Jamaal Davis  
Myesha Davis



Janelle Deem  
Donald De Long  
Greg Denham  
Dorin Deric  
Ryan Deric  
Chris Dimitroff  
Samantha Dimoff  
Megan Dixon



Jamie Dobis  
Bogoja Doneski  
David Downs  
Susan Drobac  
Brandon Dzunda  
Chris Eastlee  
James Elliott  
Aleka Emmanoilidis

Kevin Emmett  
Kyle Ensign  
Raul Esparza  
Sonia Esparza  
Jennifer Essex  
Ashley Estes  
David Evans  
Michael Fantin



Joseph Farley  
John Fashing  
Gina Fastero  
Neal Fedak  
Lisandra Fernandez  
Michael Filan  
Marco Flores  
Michelle Flores



Kari Forster  
John Foster  
Dimitric Fresh  
Danny Frevort  
Brian Frey  
Sarah Frink  
Cheryl Frost  
Ken Gabriel



Destinie Gallardo  
Erica Gallardo  
Cathy Gallimore  
Kristen Galvan  
Christina Ganga  
Jonathan Garcia  
Maricela Garcia  
Justin Gear



Holly Gentry  
Kristie Gentry  
James Gill  
Joseph Giordano  
Stanko Gligic  
Elizabeth Gomez  
Charles Gonzalez  
Deanna Gonzalez



Edwin Gonzalez  
Nicolas Gonzalez  
Erik Gregory  
Jack Grund Jr.  
Juan Guajardo  
Elizabeth Guardiola  
Joseph Guardiola  
Amy Gutierrez



Jason Hac  
Frank Halcraz  
Nichole Hall  
Richard Hamilton  
Eric Hanson  
Derrick Hargrove  
John Harms  
Annette Harness



Brian Hatfield  
Brian Haussmann  
Kimberly Hayes  
Shauna Haynes  
Barbara Hoagland  
Kathy Hodgetts  
Britton Hoffmann  
Michelle Hogan







Donny Hollandsworth  
La'Lakeha Holmes  
Angelic Hooks  
Angelo Howard  
Amy Howland  
Latoi Hughes  
Crystal Hussey  
Amarachi Igboegwu

Ekeoma Igboegwu  
Peter Ilieveski  
Julie Jackson  
Steve Jacobs  
Tiffany Januszewski  
Karianne Jelinek  
Joshua Jen  
Kelley Jenkins

Sarah Jensen  
Beatrice Johnson  
Jennifer Johnson  
Melvin Johnson Jr.  
Jeremy Josleyn  
Erin Jostes  
Rebekah Jusko  
Kristen Kapanka

Paul Kasiak  
Emmanuel Kazonis  
David Keene  
Robert Keilman  
Sarah Kelaita  
David Kelsey  
Crystal Kempa  
Cynthia Kenney

## Living Life Her Way: NIKI KALOGERAS

She's nice; she's understanding; she's fun to be with; she's a good friend; she's moody; she's Niki Kalogeras! The way Niki looks at life is what she thinks makes her different from other people. "Life is short, and we shouldn't worry about everything. Live your life the way you want to, not the way others tell you to as long as you're not doing anything to get in trouble!"

When she's not working out at Gold's Gym, she's talking on the phone or shopping. She doesn't have a job because she figures she's still young. She doesn't have anything to pay for because her parents are willing to buy her everything. Her favorite place to hang out is at her best friend, Aleka's house. "Her parents are always gone. There's no one to tell us what to do, except for my friend's brother who makes us make him food all the time!"

"I like school because it gives me somewhere to go to sleep all day, and I like to see my friends." One thing she does hate about school though is getting up so early in the morning. Maybe waking up at 6:00 in the morning is what makes her so moody?

The most important qualities Niki looks for in a guy are honesty, trust, and good looks. Oh, and of course he has to treat her good and spoil her! Niki listens to dance music in her car, but when she's just cleaning house or being bored she listens to Greek music.

She plans to go to Canada for a year and then come back for college. Her main goal in life is to finish school and succeed in the future.

Tanya Pawl



Pawl Photo



# Should kids with AIDS be allowed to attend public school?

60% say yes

40% say no

Nicole Kimmet  
Amanda Kirk  
Justin Kissinger  
Nemanja Kljajic  
Michael Kmetz  
John Koldus  
Sandra Kolodziej  
Daniel Kontos



Lucas Kora  
Maegan Krisko  
April Krizanek  
Angela Krumrie  
Alan Kustric  
Jamison Lackey  
Melissa Lair  
Angela Lamb



Rebecca Lambert  
Paul Lee  
Shannon Lentz  
Jennifer Lepley  
Jaime Levitt  
Danny Lewis  
John Lind  
Hillary Lipp



Heather Lohse  
Krisandra Long  
Ruby Long  
Rich Looney  
Alvis Luckey Jr.  
Richard Ludwig  
Heather Luedtke  
Marisa Luevano





Kristina Malast  
Gregory Mallory  
Matthew Malocha  
Lindsay Mandich  
Celeste Martinez  
Elizabeth Maul  
Rasheeda Maxwell  
Mark Mazany



Michelle McAdoo  
Brenna McKeethen  
Shaun McLain  
Francis McMullin  
Kelly Meeks  
Lori Megyesi  
Michelle Mendez  
Tiffany Mickey



Joseph Mihal  
Guy Mikulich  
Voilet Milic  
Sarah Milisavljevich  
Angie Miller  
Christopher Miller  
John Miller  
Eric Minton



Christopher Moes  
Michael Montemayor  
Melba Montgomery  
Raymond Montgomery  
Paul Moody  
Joseph Moore  
Robert Moravec  
Carly Morgan



Jeff Moriarty  
Michael Morrison  
Jeffrey Mortenson  
Natalie Mote  
Lashawn Murphy  
Nicole Myszowski  
Michael Nalborczyk  
Stephanie Nicolini



Lora Nielson  
Kelly Niezgoda  
Natalie Nimon  
Allan Nodd  
Christy Oh  
James Oliver  
Benjamin Olson  
Montell Pace



Melissa Pagel  
Brian Paine  
Randolph Palmateer  
Nicole Paniaguas  
Devon Parker  
Philip Parker  
Jaime Paulson  
Julius Peasant



Jovce Pejosi  
Edwin Pelayora  
Julianna Peppas  
Michelle Perez  
Kimberly Pero  
Shawn Peschke  
Dana Peters  
April Pieroni

Michael Pierson  
Shalaine Pinnell  
Melissa Plantz  
Courtney Poholarz  
Melissa Polonczyk  
Jennifer Pozniak  
Jennie Prgornelja  
Deanna Price



Donte Price  
Carolina Procter  
Dustin Quenett  
Jennifer Ramos  
Crystal Ramsey  
Michael Rathburn  
Megan Reberg  
Cesar Recio



Adonis Reed  
Britt Reese Jr.  
Ryan Remenius  
Moselle Richards  
Jay Richardson  
Wava Riddle  
Dejan Risteovski  
Michael Robbins



Douglas Robertson  
Christine Rodriguez  
Jessica Rogers  
Adam Rosaves  
Christina Rosenwinkel  
Brian Roth  
Jason Rubino  
Adam Ruffie



Eric Ruisard  
DaVon Rumph  
Stephen Salcedo  
Jessica Sanchez  
Veronica Sanchez  
William Santelik  
Rita Satsangi  
Justin Savich



Karla Schell  
Mark Schreiner  
Sean Scott  
Shannon Scott  
Amanda Sczurko  
Sharon Segvich  
Joshua Sessions  
Kathryn Shapkaroff



Stacey Shudick  
Nichole Shultz  
Nathan Sickles  
Christopher Sikich  
James Simandi  
Derek Simpson  
Maurene Skura  
Angelyn Smith



Charna Smith  
Karin Smith  
Carrie Snow  
Cecilia Solis  
Amanda Sopko  
Richard Sopko  
Jason Spinks  
Jennifer Springman







Chandra Standifer  
Heather Stanley  
Kevin Stanzione  
Michael Stath  
Joey Steeb  
Melinda Stelter  
Jeremie Stephens  
Kellye Stevens

T.J. Stochel  
Amy Sut  
Trisha Swanke  
Kimberly Swierc  
Jessica Swims  
John Szaller  
Susan Szot  
Tanya Tallef

Felicia Taylor  
Lisa Taylor  
Sarah Taylor  
Jeffrey Thames  
Jillian Theobald  
Michael Thiros  
Eric Thomas II  
Mark Torres

Jennifer Trapane  
Katrina Triplett  
Jennifer Troyer  
Freddie Upshaw  
James Upshaw  
Stephanie Valse  
Jennifer Vakín  
Jeff Van Volkenburgh

## Skating into the East Coast: BOBBY BURKUS

If you heard the names Salman Agah, or Gershon Mosley, would you know who they are? Probably not, unless you're a big skate fan like Bobby Burkus, '97, is. Involved in skateboarding and snowboarding, Burkus spends a lot of his free time at Drop Inn's skateboarding park in Illinois or snowboarding at the Pines.

When he's not skating or snowboarding, which isn't very often, he spends time hanging out with his friends.

"I spend a lot of time at Sam Berkman's house, at Stardust, and of course, with my girl."

Many of Burkus' friends describe him as a quiet (until you get to know him), funny, and a cool guy to hang out with. But Burkus describes himself as simply, "Me."

"I look for a girl who's pretty, funny, and who doesn't mind if I skateboard," he said.

Burkus said that the strangest thing that has happened to him is the time one of his friends ran into the tree in his front yard with a rental car. "I looked out my window and remember seeing a car four wheeling through my front yard. I've never laughed so much and been so shocked at the same time."

In five years Bobby wants to have a place and be living on the East Coast, possibly in New York, with a good job and a nice place. But just what he's going to do yet isn't clear.

He said his mom plays an important role in his life and who he is. "She's why I'm here."

Jamie McKenney



Pawl Photo

Douglas Vander Tuuk  
Eric Vargas  
Jessica Vargas  
Chris Velazquez  
Bobby Verbik  
Natalie Verduco  
Matt Villanueva  
Jesus Villarreal



Jeanine Visuue  
Eugene Vivo  
Stamatios Vlahos  
Ruska Vraniskoski  
Jovan Walker  
Michael Walker  
Shelley Wall  
Emily Walla



Nicholas Wardell  
Delphine Wedding  
Nikki Weigl  
Thomas Westbury  
Brandon Whitaker  
Kelly White  
Berlinda Williams  
Deshaun Williams



Kelee Williams  
Katie Willison  
Eugene Wilson  
Robert Wolf  
Clifton Woods  
John Woodward  
Jodi Yambrisak  
Jamie Young



Kim Young  
Maria Zairis  
Elizabeth Zak  
Lakisha Zanders  
Olivia Zdravski  
Alexander Zerneno  
Chrisopher Zervos  
Alexandra Zestanakis



— "IS IT OVER  
YET?" BARBARA  
HOAGLAND  
STARES AT THE  
SCOREBOARD IN  
FRUSTRATION AS  
TIME TICKED AWAY  
TOO QUICKLY  
FOR THE PIRATE  
OFFENSE TO  
SCORE AGAIN.



"WE'RE NUMBER ONE!"  
SHOUTED THE JUNIOR  
POWDER PUFF TEAM.  
ACTUALLY THEY WERE  
NUMBER TWO, THE SENIORS  
DEFEATED THE JUNIORS BY  
ONE TOUCH DOWN.

Robert Zimnawoda  
Paul Zolodz







LaTonzia Adams  
Anthony Aguilera  
Jerame Aikens  
Jorge Alcocer  
George Alexandris  
Thomas Alexandris  
Quinton Allen  
Michael Anaclerio

Juan Anaya  
Helen Andreatos  
George Anton  
Alfred Arana III  
Corrin Argenta  
Michael Arroyo  
Jennifer Ashe  
Matthew Aubin

Stephanie Badylak  
Elisa Baez  
Kathleen Bartochowski  
Jonathan Bassett  
Eric Beale  
Carolyn Bednash  
Jennifer Beaty  
Marsha Belmonte

Jeffrey Berdine  
Samuel Berkman  
Elena Bielawski  
Tiffany Blakemore  
Jason Blankinship  
Alicia Blondet  
Elizabeth Bobos  
Ronald Bolden

## Playing His Tune By Ear: JAY LACNY

Jay Lacny described himself as being very nervous and distracted 90% of the time. Jay said that he fears defeat and embarrassment. Jay interests include playing his guitar and being involved with the band that he's in. In his spare time, Jay goes to wrestling practices, eats, and plays his guitar. He said his favorite part of school was "the strictness here is something I like." On the other hand Jay's least favorite part of school is that some of the schools rules have gotten out of hand. For the girls out there, Jay looks for "sensitivity, caring, and understanding" in a woman. Jay's idea of a dream date would be "A romantic dinner for two, candlelight of course, with some soft music. Then it would be off to a horse and carriage ride for two."

Jay's favorite places to hang out are Barnes and Noble and any place that his band practices. According to Jay, the most important people in his life are first "my family and religion. Second, all my good friends who support everything that I do."

Jay says that his most embarrassing moment was "at my band's first gig. We were playing the easiest song in the world, and I messed up totally." Jay said that he'll listen to any kind of music that sounds good.

When asked how he was different from others, Jay responded, "I like to lead instead of follow. I try different things instead of letting them slip away from me."

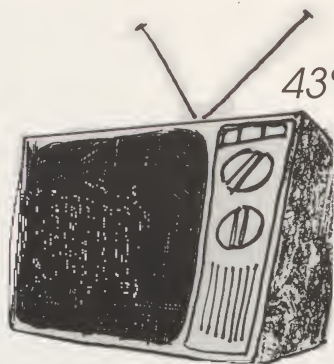
After high school Jay plans to go to college to get a degree in C.A.D. (computer assisted drafting). He also plans to go to a music institute for guitar and hopefully take off in the music business. "My musical ability is a God given talent. Never will I expect more of less than that. Some people would take something like that for granted, but in my eyes that is like a sin."



Tania Prough

Pawl Photo

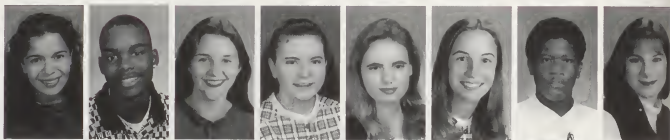
# Is television a major influence in our lives?



43% say no

79% say yes

Rebecca Bosch  
Terrence Boyd  
Christin Brakley  
Anita Briggs  
Raine Brodner  
Ann Bronowski  
Christopher Brown  
Elizabeth Brown



Sarah Brown  
Solomon Brown  
Fredrick Buck  
Keith Bukovic  
Stephanie Bulanda  
Kelly Burke  
Maja Businoska  
Andrew Byrom



Robert Cagle  
William Campbell  
Katy Cantrell  
Richie Carden  
Jack Cardin  
Jason Carr  
Heather Carter  
John Casteel



Rose Castillo  
Elaine Castro  
Betty Cather  
James Cermak  
Michelle Chandler  
Brian Chapman  
Jamie Chapman  
Joshua Christoff





Christin Cincinnione  
Angela Clark  
Kimberly Clark  
Matthew Clemens  
Nakia Clemmons  
Ryan Cleveringa  
Tiffanie Coe  
April Connelly

Amanda Cook  
Jason Corlano  
Crystal Courington  
David Cram  
Thomas Crane  
Nicole Crisman  
Nathan Cross  
Jeff Cseke

Michael Curtis  
Jody Cyphert  
Kristian Darden  
Michael DeCourcy  
Jack DeHaven  
Alicia DeLeon  
Cristina DeLong  
Craig Demaree

Richard Demo  
Angela DeSouza  
Lupka Despotoski  
Zoran Despotoski  
Roy DeYoung  
Damien Dilborne  
Diana Dipert  
Ashley Dobis

Doris Dobrich  
Naum Doneski  
David Duchsher  
Lynn Duplaga  
Heather Egener  
Matthew Egener  
Joey Eich  
Charles Elliott

Terry Emmons  
Clarence English  
Kevin English  
Grace Escamilla  
Alexandros Espoglou  
Jeffrey Fairbairn  
Michael Flutka  
Lauren Fralinger

Joshua Francis  
Ryan Francis  
Jason Franzen  
Barbara Freeman  
Margaret French  
Amie Frey  
Dennis Frizzell  
Kathryn Gaines

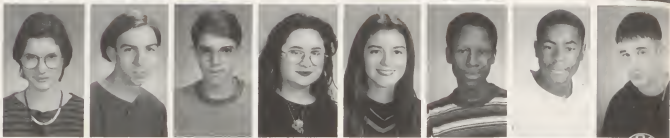
Danny Galic  
Annie Gallagher  
Lisa Garbus  
Angela Georgion  
Ryan Germick  
Diana Gill  
Mercedes Goetz  
Mario Gonzalez



Geoffrey Gooch  
Deanna Goodman  
Jennifer Gordon  
Elizabeth Gray  
Joshua Gray  
Rebecca Greenberg  
Eric Greene  
Kristina Greene



Mary Gregor  
Bradley Gregory  
Jacob Gross  
Yvonne Guardiola  
Angela Guernsey  
Brian Gueyser  
Aaron Guice  
James Haley



Maria Halkias  
Diana Hammer  
Monique Harbin  
Joseph Harbour  
Jacques Harris  
James Harris  
Nicholas Hazi  
Deloris Head



Ieesha Hearne  
Ginny Heitman  
Hollis Henley  
Erik Herbert  
Jesus Hernandez  
Anna Herrera  
Joyce Herrera  
Larry Herzog



James Hester  
Jennifer Hill  
Megan Hill  
Christopher Hodges  
Brandon Hoffman  
Stephanie Hogan  
Nicolas Holm  
Laura Hoover



Brandon Hosch  
David Hosler  
Danielle Houck  
Shannon Houck  
Jennifer Hummel  
Mike Hunke  
Michael Igarta  
Cindy Jackubin



Anthony James  
David Janda  
William Janowsky  
Erisharon Johnson  
Margaret Johnson  
Mary Johnson  
Nikita Johnson  
September Johnson



Matthew Johnston  
Radi Jones  
Romell Jones  
Tiffany Jones  
Nenad Jovanovic  
Alexander Jovanovich  
Nicole Karabetos  
Michael Kardoulis





Kayvon Karimi  
Steven Karson  
Stacy Kasch  
Stephen Kavosis  
Deidra Keilman  
Kelly Keilman  
Johnson Kelaith  
Branden Kelly

Andrew Kendrick  
Danielle Kerns  
Mashelle Kienzl  
Enoch Kimbrow  
Nicole King  
Shawn King  
April Kiszka  
Jennifer Kljajich

Joseph Konefall  
Jerry Koontz  
Arkadiusz Kosow  
Bobby Kosterki  
Jennifer Kozub  
Paul Kozubal  
Steven Krizman  
Ljupco Kreski

Tia Krooswyk  
Jennifer Kucik  
Todd Kuntz  
Jennifer Lackovitch  
Jason Lancy  
Joshua Lain  
Michael Laslow  
Peter Laspas

## Standing Out Of The Crowd: ALICIA DeLEON

Alicia DeLeon describes herself as quiet and shy until she gets to know a person. "I try to be friendly to everyone, but of course I have my bad moods at times." She loves to smile, and "tries not to let things get to her." This girl is just a happy person. If only everyone had this positive attitude.....

Alicia is on the gymnastics team, which takes up a lot of her time. On Saturdays, she teaches gymnastics to elementary aged girls. "I like being able to see a girl get a trick and to know that I helped her learn that. It's a nice feeling."

Who gets the credit for doing such a good job influencing this gal? It goes to her brother, Ben. He's always there for her and can make her laugh. "When I was three years-old I decided to join my brother at school on his first day of kindergarten. I walked to school by myself and nearly gave my mom a heart attack." Her brother went away to college this year, and Alicia is always looking forward to when he comes home.

Alicia feels that she is different from everyone else because she doesn't just hang out with one crowd. She has many friends she talks to at school. "I try not to stay isolated to one group of friends. I also try to be myself."

After she graduates Alicia would like to go to college and become a pharmacist. Where does she see herself in five years? "I see myself in college. I would like to get a career first before I get married and start a family."

Tanya Pawl



Pawl Photo



# Is interracial dating acceptable in today's society?

95% say Yes

27% say No

Anne Marie Laurel  
Damien Lee  
Amber Lenker  
William Li  
Aaron Longacre  
Katreena Lopez  
Stevie Lopez  
Monia Lucious



Melissa Luna  
Lisa Luyon  
Sean Lyons  
Allison Mackey  
Terrie Maddox  
Anthony Madrinan  
Richard Maiden  
Irene Makarounas



Elena Malave  
Leslie Malerich  
Alex Malinovich  
Joe Mallory  
Rozell Manning  
Matt Manoski  
Milena Maric  
Cvetozar Marinceski



Amber Martin  
Lindsey Martin  
Abigail Matlock  
Jill Matuski  
Mark Mayersky  
David McCarty  
Jennifer McCarty  
Shawn McCarty





Jeremy McClain  
Bonnie McFarland  
Brian McLindon  
Damlone McQueen  
Kelly McShane  
Yashima Mead  
Jason Mearna  
Sergio Medellin



Derek Melcic  
Angela Melnick  
David Merritt  
James Mezo  
Misty Miazga  
Steven Milak  
Chris Mileos  
DeMonte Millard



Tonjameka Miller  
Amanda Minnich  
Greg Mish  
Maryanne Mitrevski  
Lisa Modglin  
Jennifer Modisette  
Jamie Modrak  
Amanda Moloney



Peter Montoleone  
David Morgan  
Teneisha Morris  
Erin Mulloy  
Johnny Muniz  
Christopher Murray  
Michael Mytyk  
Adam Naujokas



Elizabeth Navarro  
Kristiana Navarro  
David Nelson  
Jeffrey Nelson  
Kostas Nikitaras  
Pamela Niksch  
Snezana Obetkovski  
Jessica Ollech



Anthony Ortiz  
Mario Ortiz  
Kate O'Sullivan  
Laurie Owen  
Tina Owen  
Quianna Pace  
Kathryn Padberg  
Marco Pagan



Sarah Pagel  
Karyn Pahl  
Joshua Paniaguas  
Adam Parduhn  
Deesha Parker  
Brett Parlock  
Betsy Parrish  
Kelly Patterson



Matthew Pavlovich  
Jason Pearman  
Santos Pedrza  
Jeff Peek  
Lashounda Peete  
Diana Pena  
Kim Pena  
Bryn Pendley

Jami Penilla  
Bridget Petrites  
Hrisovalant Petsalis  
Jordan Pierson  
Paul Pittman  
Michael Polak  
Bradley Polezoes  
Chris Polka



Trisha Potts  
Tina Powers  
Valerie Pratscher  
Daniela Prentoski  
Kelly Preuss  
Erin Price  
Torria Prince  
Lisa Quiroga



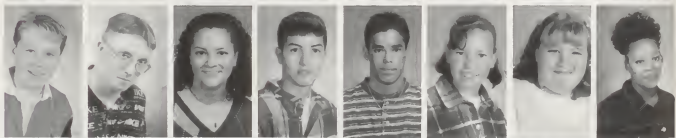
John Quiroz  
Amanda Radigan  
Melissa Rainbolt  
David Rainey  
Nicole Rakich  
Adrian Ramirez  
Rafael Ramirez  
Jammal Rashad



Mary Rassbach  
Jessica Reed  
Douglas Reeves  
Kristin Rendina  
Lisa Renehan  
Ryan Rentschler  
Renee Reyes  
John Richards



Jeremy Rick  
Richard Risch  
Danielle Rivera  
Nestor Rivera  
Steven Rivera  
Jennifer Roames  
Kristin Roberts  
Clinique Robinson



Ronald Robinson  
Jeremiah Rodriguez  
Eduardo Roman  
Bret Romeo  
Johnny Rooda  
Jennifer Rose  
Daniel Rosenbaum  
Erin Roth



Timothy Roytan  
Kimberly Ruehl  
Kimberly Rumph  
Curtis Rund  
Ronald Russin  
Melissa Sabo  
Rosa Salazar  
Jennifer Sanders



Jacob Santeramo  
Khalil Santos  
Arleen Sattler  
Beth Scheffer  
Sarah Schmuck  
Jenee Schramm  
Ann Schubert  
Christopher Schuck







Timothy Seibal  
Deanna Semovski  
Andrew Seydel  
Adam Shaffer  
Jennifer Shawver  
John Shelhart  
Rachel Sheridan  
Andrew Shih

Alicia Shingler  
Jennifer Shoback  
Clint Shoemaker  
DeAnna Shonk  
Roger Sills  
Jamie Simpson  
Michelle Simpson  
Brian Sims

Michael Simunjak  
Susan Sinkiewicz  
Gabriel Skoufevitz  
Nicole Skura  
Brandis Smith  
Brian Smith  
Jeffery Smith  
Hilary Snover

Cassandra Solomon  
Melissa Sonaty  
Anthony Sorci  
Danny Spallaras  
Maria Spanos  
Matt Sparacino  
Daniel Spencer  
Stephanie Sperka

## The Clothes Off Their Backs: NIK & GOCE RISTEVSKI

Attention all girls! Are you intelligent, good looking, and funny, with a mind of your own? If so, then you're the girl for Nik Ristevski. These are the qualities he looks for in his women. Nik describes himself as a lovable, gentle, caring, funny, and weird Macedonian. Anyone who knows him would have to agree. This guy always has a smile on his face.

Nik's interests are playing all sports and hanging out with his friends. Along with his family, Nik's friends are very important to him. That's really his favorite part of school. "I like seeing my friends and the fact that I get somewhat of an education." Of all the sports Nik plays, his favorite is pole vaulting.

But Nik isn't the only Ristevski in this school. He also has a little brother, Goce. Goce is a crazy freshman who's fun to be with. Outside of school he likes to hang out with his friends in downtown Chicago.

So how do these two brothers get along? They seem to get along pretty well, except for a few differences. Nik doesn't like Goce's taste in music but Goce also has his pet peeves. "I hate it when he takes all of my clothes, and how he thinks I should have great respect for him because he's older." These two do seem to get along half the time, though. They're there for each other, like all loving brothers. "We hook each other up with chicks."

Nik's plans for after high school are to go to college. "I hope to be as successful as possible and have as much fun in life as I can." His little brother hopes for the same. He also plans to go to a college and become something in the medical field, maybe a doctor. For now though, Nik doesn't have a job because he believes going to school is a job in itself. His way to go by in life? Life goes on, so get over it.

Tanya Pawl



Pawl Photo

# Are drugs a problem in middle school and high school?

43% say No

79% say Yes



Kelvin Stanford  
Michael Stanivuk  
Alexia Stath  
Aaron Steele  
Kristin Stefankiewicz  
Antoine Stewart  
Christy Stewart  
Lorie Stock



Lori Stonecipher  
Ryan Straub  
Phil Strong  
Sherrie Stupic  
Donald Summar  
Alan Svitko  
Adonis Swift  
Jason Tabor



Jonathan Talbot  
Andy Tanis  
Jeffrey Tapper  
Brock Taylor  
Jacob Tellado  
Ailiki Theodorou  
Marisa Thomas  
Qiana Thornton



Elizabeth Todoroska  
David Tokarski  
Krista Toth  
Miguel Tovar  
Igor Trpkoski  
Rashad Tucker  
Allison Tuft  
Abigail Tyler







Dawn Tyler  
Jamie Ilbrich  
Scott Underwood  
Adam Vadas  
Michelle Vasileski  
Stacy Vasoli  
Dimitrios Vassiliou  
Richard Vawter

Samuel Vazanellis  
Steven Vettese  
Natasha Via  
Robert Vinson  
Paul Virgo  
Ryan Vlasic  
Quan Vu  
Julia Vukin

Christina Vuletic  
Nicholas Vurva  
Christy Walsh  
Matt Warus  
Holly Wellestat  
Michelle Westerfield  
Timothy Wheeler  
Latasha Williams

Tasha Williams  
Keri Willison  
Jennifer Wilson  
Keith Wilson  
Jill Wilusz  
AnnMarie Wojtowicz  
Raeanne Woodke  
Jason Woolwine

Yvonne Woszczyński  
Lori Wotell  
Marysa Wright  
Nicholas Wright  
Eric Xidis  
Nina Zamora  
Cassandra Zawacki  
Tim Zonca

Jiovanni Zunno



INJURED GYMNASTS ELENA  
MALAVE AND AMY  
SOPCZAK OFFER ADVICE TO  
LYNDI TEGTMANN BEFORE A  
MEET.

JENNIFER SHOBACK  
CAREFULLY MEASURES HER  
INGREDIENTS IN FOODS  
CLASS.

Jenny Adams  
 Kyle Adams  
 Brandon Adamson  
 Cory Adler  
 Eric Aguirre  
 Dalana Alvarez  
 Adam Ama  
 Nicole Amberson



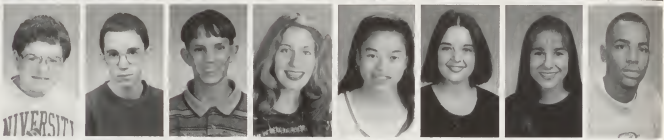
Benjamin Ameling  
 Julian Anaya  
 Marikko Anderson  
 Olympia Anthony  
 Adam Antkiewicz  
 Julia Arambula  
 Anna Arroyo  
 Jennifer Ashe



Priscilla Assibey-Mensah  
 Janet Atakora  
 Justin Atwood  
 Tia Austin  
 Anthony Azcona  
 Ryan Bailey  
 Tony Bairaktaris  
 Tabitha Balder



Christopher Baldwin  
 Jared Bane  
 Dominic Banham  
 Gina Bartolomeo  
 Emmeline Benavides  
 Elizabeth Berry  
 Kristina Berta  
 Barry Billingsley



Victoria Bish  
 Ashley Bittner  
 Sandra Blanco  
 Amanda Blann  
 Evita Blondet  
 Tabitha Bolden  
 Vanessa Bond  
 Virginia Bonilla



Lisa Bowen  
 Timothy Branham  
 Shali Bralenger  
 Lori Bratcher  
 Suzanne Brazlovitz  
 Dustin Breeden  
 Michael Brewer  
 Stacey Brooks



Erica Brown  
 Sharnette Brown  
 Jason Bunnell  
 Jaclyn Burns  
 Shannon Cagle  
 Terri Camery  
 Nicholas Camisa  
 Dion Campbell



Karina Canchola  
 Tiffany Carli  
 Jelene Carlson  
 Eddie Cather  
 Jackie Cernak  
 Christopher Charleston  
 Debbie Choate  
 Ryann Christiansen





Jenny Chung  
Onyeka Chuto  
Porscha Cobb  
Syreeta Cobb  
Christina Cole  
Robin Conner  
Jimmy Connolly  
Candice Cook

Caerlettia Cott  
Callie Croyle  
Jayson Culp  
Daniel Curtis  
Steve Cvetkoski  
Brian Damion  
Sandy Damjanoski  
Erica Davis

David De Leon  
Rolando Decos  
Violeta Del Real  
Ronald Dergo  
Jacqueline Dienes  
Vasil Dimovski  
Jon Donahue  
Mary Dordieski

Danielle Dore  
Oliver Dorsuleski  
Robert Dowdy  
Andrew Draper  
Brandy Dravet  
Debra Drobac  
Rebecca Dubbert  
Christa Dziewicki

## Looking into the East-lee: CHRIS & JOSH EASTLEE

Mooch? Who's Mooch? For those good friends of his, that nickname could only refer to one person, Chris Eastlee, '97.

When asked how he would describe himself, he said, "I wouldn't." And simple enough, maybe there are no words to describe this guy. A funny, crazy, and anything but down-to-Earth guy, Chris says he differs from others in his viewpoints and opinions.

"I want to meet the challenges presented to me, go to college or maybe the military academy," he pauses, "...if they'll take me."

Chris said the most important people in his life are his parents, "And all my friends from the 'HGP,'" Tim, Jay, Jay, Zervos, Dave, Mike and Pauly."

"I enjoy spending time with my friends, making jokes about Bubba, and hugging Joe Barker," Chris said, "and in my spare time I work, beat up on Josh and hug Joe Barker."

Chris also has a brother, Josh, who is a freshman. What do people think of this little Eastlee? "Chicks dig me!" he says. But what does he look for in his chicks? "I look for a girl that likes me and is pretty."

Outside of school, Chris goes to work at Angelos Sicilian Cart, and Josh plays the guitar and hangs out with his best friend, Andy.

Josh states that he and his brother get along sometimes except when Chris thinks he is smart, which is most of the time. What do they mostly fight about? "Women," Josh said.



Jamie McKenney & Tanya Pawl

Pawl Photo

# Is college education important to teens of the 90's

86% say yes

27% say no



Shamiane Easley  
Josh Eastlee  
Evita Echols  
Matthew Edwards  
Nouha El-Omar  
Gary Elliott Jr.  
Cheryl Emmett  
Mike Ennis



Otoniel Espinosa  
David Everett Jr.  
Nicholas Farabaugh  
Lisa Farver  
Ryan Fasel  
Lisa Fesko  
Joaquin Flores  
Misty Ford



Marygrace Foster  
Patrick Foster  
Russell Francis  
Michael Frangis  
Joshua Frank  
Kari Fravel  
Alantis Frost  
Brandy Fry



Carrie Gabrys  
David Galovic  
Tera Galovic  
Marissa Galavan  
Joey Gargano  
Valerie Garza  
Eric Gentry  
Michelle Gentry







Katrina George  
Lisa Giboyeaux  
James Gilliam  
Jason Gilliam  
Jolynese Glas  
Joy Glass  
Joshua Glaser  
Michael Glorioso



Antonio Godinez  
Dana Gombus  
Robert Gomez  
Elena Gonzalez  
Matthew Gonzalez  
Michael Gonzalez  
Michael Gonzalez  
Priscilla Gonzalez



Matthew Gordon  
Keith Gouwens  
Tiffany Greene  
Kristina Gros  
Jennifer Grubb  
Michael Gubitz  
Christina Guerrero  
Al Guillen



Kimberly Gut  
Thomas Gutesha  
Larry Gutierrez  
Nathaniel Hall  
Kurtiss Hayes  
Thomas Hazlett  
Jennifer Heine  
Binika Henderson



Simone Henderson  
Kelly Herrera  
Thomas Hilliker  
Linda Hinojosa  
John Holden  
Daniel Holmes  
Edgar Holmes  
Carrie Hoover



Lateena Hubbard  
David Huber  
John Hunt  
Cash Irby  
Christopher Irwin  
William Jackomis  
Sean Jackson  
Amanda Jacobs



Nancy Jakubin  
Michael Janeczko  
Tyanna Januszewski  
Lattoya Jefferson  
Alfred Johnson  
Angela Johnson  
LaToya Johnson  
Ursula Johnson



Lynne Jones  
Miranda Jones  
Sarah Jones  
Joseph Juarez  
Keith Kaiser  
Michelle Kaminsky  
Valentina Karamacoska  
Heather Karaczewski



Johnny Karson  
Melissa Kelsey  
Tim Kenney  
James Keown  
Melissa Kerns  
Karen Kerr  
Brian Kessler  
Michael Kienzynski



Garry King  
Ryan King  
Michael Kisze  
Tracy Kleminski  
Joseph Klippel  
Ognjen Kljajic  
Julianna Kljajich  
Robert Kmetz



Kyle Knight  
Brian Kolodziej  
Kristy Komar  
Erica Koppers  
Danny Koroskoski  
Craig Koves  
Chris Krcoski  
Marina Kritikos



Jonathan Kwiatkoski  
Courtney Lamprecht  
Adam Langham  
Amy Lay  
Aimee Lee  
Dana Levitt  
Richard Lile  
Tara Linde



Erin Lindsay  
Melissa Little  
Rosanne Lloyd  
Candi Long  
Paula Lopes  
Jacquelyn Lopez  
Sandra Lopez  
Amanda Lucas



Elizabeth Lucas  
Melissa Lucassen  
Mandy Lucious  
Laura Luevano  
Tina Luna  
Kimberly Lux  
Neil Lux  
Jennifer Lyles



Ronell Lyles  
Rodney Mabon  
Leslie Mackowiak  
Matthew Magurany  
Sarah Magurany  
Kari Majakowski  
Dede Makarduman  
Monica Malocha



Katrina Mandich  
Kevin Manning  
Ryan Marovich  
Linda Martinez  
Nicole Martinez  
Sara Martinez  
Kimberly Maud  
Tom Mauman





Shannon McCann  
Amanda McConnell  
Jaclyn McCord  
Brandy McCoy  
Chanelle McDaniel  
Christina McDaniel  
Erin McDermott  
Casey McKenney

Kathleen McMullin  
Shawna Meadows  
Michael Megyesi  
Lisa Mejia  
Michael Mersot  
Kevin Meyer  
Dana Miller  
Steven Minchuk

Nicole Minskey  
Michael Mitchell  
Wesley Mitchell  
Angela Moes  
Jennifer Mola  
Jessica Montemayor  
Danielle Moore  
Christopher Morawska

Jason Morton  
Alicia Moss  
Robert Mullen  
Nicole Murray  
Dragan Muvceski  
Tina Naumoski  
Paul Navarro  
Romona Navarro

## Opposites Attract: JENNIFER & ANDY DRAPER

Who in the world describes their brother as a "sweet, caring guy... a warm-hearted mamma's boy?" Jennifer Draper, '96, said that about her brother Andy, '99. But what does he have to say about himself? "I'm a great young man who really has his life together." Those are some really big words coming from a freshman. As far as goals go, Jenny is going to attend Purdue University and get a degree in journalism, advertising, or communications. Although Andy doesn't know exactly what he wants to do, he says he definitely knows he's going to "finish high school with good grades, go to college, then get a good job."

Right now Jenny is concentrating on having a good time with her friends during her last year of high school, but wants to travel in the future. Andy seems to be more interested in the present, listing his interests as "music, food, girls, and sports." Those were in no particular order, of course.

How would Andy describe his elder sister? "She's nice, generous, pretty, and a good driver."

"The best thing about school is being around my friends," says Jenny. While she hangs out with her friends, her brother spends an awful lot of time in the cafeteria, since his favorite things are the lunch ladies.

Although you might think that some of their most embarrassing moments might involve each other, they say otherwise.

"Shelly Boedecker and I were in my car, and two of our friends were following us down I-65 on our way to Basketball Semi-State in Lafayette. We caught up to the team bus, and were waiting up for our other friends to catch up with us. The radio was really loud, and we were dancing in the car. All of a sudden, we saw all of the players telling us to get out of the way. We had both lanes of I-65 backed up for about a half mile because my car had veered into the other lane next to us!" said Jenny.

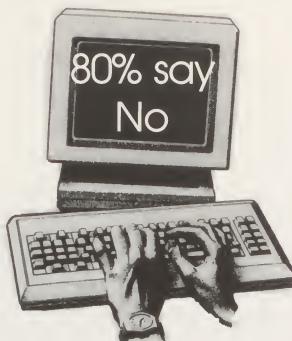
No matter what people may say about sibling rivalry, this couple seem to have the problem under control.

Kelli Moore



Pawl Photo

# Should the Internet be censored?



Nicole Nelson  
Nicole Nelson  
April Nichols  
Natasha Nixon  
Heather Oaks  
Mark O'Brien  
Adam Ohlenkamp  
Jonathan Ollech



David Orgon  
Anne Orzechowicz  
Steve Packovski  
Nadine Pedilla  
Samantha Palmateer  
Stephanie Palmateer  
Joseph Parsanko  
Steve Passaloukos



Alonzo Paul  
Angela Pavlish  
Tom Payn  
Calvin Peacock  
Kieran Pearson  
Steve Pearson  
Terra Pearson  
Jennifer Pedroza



Clarence Perry  
Scott Peters  
Kirk Petyo  
Casey Phelan  
Eric Pinnell  
Sarah Plukas  
Anna Ponce  
Melissa Powers







Thomas Preston  
Derek Previs  
Dierre Price  
Gregory Price  
Jennifer Purevich  
Leon Quainter  
Christopher Rainbolt  
Roberto Rais



Jill Ramos  
Riannon Ramos  
Jessica Randolph  
Jameela Rashad  
Ian Rausei  
Edward Reed  
Jullius Reed  
Jodi Reeves



Brandi Reid  
Emily Reilly  
Jeff Remenius  
Tracy Richmond  
Wally Riddle  
Goce Risteovski  
Deanne Rivera  
David Rodriguez



Harry Rodriguez  
Raymond Rogalski  
Jeffrey Rosenwinkel  
Bradley Roy  
Jennifer Roytan  
April Riuz  
Jon Rybicki  
Amanda Rysiewicz



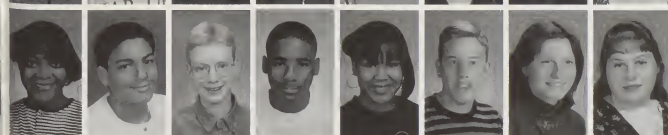
Angela Sajdera  
Rebecca Salies  
Marixa Samuels  
Daniel Sanchez  
Jason Sanchez  
Joel Sanchez  
Nicole Sanchez  
Saima Satti



Matthew Sciegel  
Kira Scheub  
Danny Schiefer  
Jason Schoot  
Michelle Schreiner  
Ryan Scott  
Michael Sell  
Taria Selmon



Jacquia Seltz  
Micole Shelby  
Megan Shelton  
Elizabeth Sherwood  
Tina Shukitis  
Shanna Sigman  
Jason Sims  
Nicholas Skalba



Angela Smith  
Christopher Smith  
Glenn Smith  
Jacob Smith  
Kimberly Smith  
Charles Smoljan  
Catherine Snelson  
Heidi Snow

Michael Sopko  
Amanda Sovich  
Adam Sparacino  
Antwayn Spencer  
Jorie Spinks  
Melissa Squyres  
Melissa St. Clair  
Suzelen Stage



Jennifer Stallkamp  
Aaron Standifer  
Sara Staniszewski  
Demetra Stath  
Tameka Stegall  
Stephen Steininger  
Keith Stephens  
Eric Stewart



Veronica Stiles  
Jennifer Street  
Kevin Strehle  
Michelle Strunk  
Sara Stupic  
Paul Suleski  
Mindy Summers  
Troy Sutton



Nina Suvajac  
Kyle Swim  
Racheal Szany  
Mary Tagg  
Dane Tanaskoski  
Darrell Taylor  
Katie Taylor  
Mark Taylor



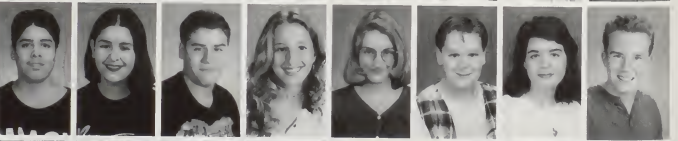
Danielle Thames  
Elizabeth Thien  
Joseph Thompson  
Cheyanne Thornley  
Maria Toledo  
Michael Tomondi  
Joseph Torres  
Christina Towry



John Trama  
James Trembczynski  
Jeremy Trimble  
Stacey Trock  
Michael Tucker  
Moses Tucker  
Rommel Turner  
Patricia Underwood



Carlos Uribe  
Jasmine Uribe  
Fernando Vaca  
Marisa Van Volkenburgh  
Christina Vargo  
Jeremy Vasaitis  
Elena Vasilakis  
Michael Vaughn



Bruce Vazquez  
Israel Velez  
Carisa Venegas  
Nicholas Vlahos  
Angela Wahlman  
Joshua Walker  
Allison Watts  
Jennifer Webster







Jessica Welch  
Brian Wellestat  
Shannon Wells  
Jeanette West  
Karni West  
Terrance Wheeler  
Jacquese White  
Keith White



Kristina White  
Lawanda Wiggins  
William Wilborn  
Delrick Williams  
LaTanza Williams  
Kristian Willis  
Melissa Wilson  
Justine Wojcik



Robert Wojcik  
Wendy Wood  
Thomas Woodke  
Stephanie Woodward  
Jessica Wright  
Nick Yack  
Michael Zaborski  
Luke Zakutanski



James Zapinski  
Jan Zasowski  
Nada Zezlj  
Kasandra Zweig

## Underclass Not Pictured

Tyron Adams, '98  
Lucius Allen, '99  
Robert Anderson, '97  
Briana Ardelean, '97  
Tracy Armstrong, '98  
Iljia Babich, '98  
Allen Barber, '97  
Regina Beliman, '99  
Kristina Brown, '99  
Melinda Brown, '97  
Melissa Brown, '97  
Dorothy Bruncker, '99  
Hillary Buha, '99  
Colleen Brzykcy, '97  
Nedran Burroughs, '99  
Azucena Cardenas, '99  
Samuel Carter, '97  
Jon Castellanos, '99  
Chris Celeski, '97  
Ivan Chisholm, '99  
Kelly Craig, '99  
Kelli Dahlen, '97  
Ryan Davis, '97  
Heather Dempsey, '97  
David Dobos, '98  
Mayrth Dorado, '98  
Amber Dotson, '99  
Christopher Ducret, '97  
Jeremie Duff, '98  
Kelly Eldridge, '98  
Tiffany Essex, '98  
Draper Fair, '98  
Michael Ferjo, '99  
Jennifer Garza, '99  
Kelly Gatton, '97

Brian Gemeinhart, '99  
Brian George, '98  
William Ghorley, '99  
Onique Gibson, '97  
Coco Gjoreski, '98  
Iljia Gjoreski, '97  
Jamal Gore, '99  
Stanley Gregory, '97  
Steven Grygar, '99  
Jamie Haager, '98  
Amber Hamilton, '98  
Sarah Harris, '98  
Laura Hass, '99  
Kendra Hawkins, '98  
Jason Hayes, '97  
Kenneth Hayes, '98  
Christopher Hedigan, '98  
Kendra Henderson, '97  
Billie Hennington, '97  
Donald Hennessy, '99  
Michael Heppburn, '98  
Michael Huff, '99  
Jonathan Hurt, '99  
Kevin Hutnick, '97  
Jason Jackson, '98  
Timothy Jenkins, '99  
Jennifer Jennins, '99  
Ebony Johnson, '98  
Dymesta Jones, '97  
Shannon Jones, '97  
Sase Jovanoski, '97  
Niki Kalogeras, '97  
Niki Kazonis, '99  
Jodie Kendera, '99  
Donald Kepperling, '99

Deanna Klebs, '99  
Jim Klein, '97  
Danny Klemoff, '99  
Jessica Knight, '99  
Autumn Komisarick, '97  
Natalie Kopack, '99  
Richard Krueger, '98  
Felicia Lamb, '98  
Christopher Lawrence, '98  
Dunay Lawrence, '98  
Adam LeGrand, '99  
Harvest Le May, '98  
Robert Lewis, '97  
Jason Littleton, '98  
Jeremy Long, '99  
Ronald Lyles, '99  
Sonya Mabon, '99  
Rita Magana, '98  
Steven Mannings, '97  
Michael Maple, '99  
Jason Marcus, '99  
Brian Marshall, '97  
Thomas Mauman, '99  
Christina McCann, '97  
Kerri McIntyre, '99  
Brenda McKeethan, '98  
Francisco Medellin, '98  
Jeffrey Meeks, '98  
Susan Meissler, '97  
Ruben Mejia, '98  
Thomas Merced, '99  
Joshua Mican, '98  
Jill Minton, '98  
Mariah Mitchell, '97  
Amanda Moloney, '99

Abbey Myska, '98  
Katie Myska, '98  
Petko Naumoski, '98  
Dallas Nicklas, '99  
Jonathan Oaks, '98  
Mbanefo Onyeka, '99  
Scott Page, '99  
Ted Partas, '98  
Tania Patton, '98  
Enisho Payne III, '98  
Max Pearson, '97  
Renée Pedraza, '98  
Christopher Polak, '98  
Alberto Portes, '98  
Wesley Potts III, '98  
Tony Pratt, '98  
Crystal Presley, '99  
Nicole Quainter, '98  
Chad Raper, '97  
Jameel Raschad, '98  
Michael Reyna, '99  
Joshua Riegert, '99  
Julia Ristic, '97  
Damien Roberts, '99  
Michael Robertson, '99  
Patricia Robinson, '97  
Thirza Rodriguez, '97  
Cesar Sanchez, '99  
Anthony San Miguel, '98  
Abraham Santos, '98  
Jacob Santos, '99  
Corey Saxton, '99  
Carlette Scott, '99  
Thomas Scott, '97  
Zachary Sears, '99  
Matt Seil, '98  
Brittany Shelton, '98  
Jacob Shils, '98

Jennifer Sills, '97  
Victor Slaughter Jr., '99  
Sheri Smith, '97  
Cheryl Snyder, '98  
David Sokol, '99  
Ioannis Spanos, '97  
Derek Stompor, '97  
Michael Stupar, '97  
Sarah Sumichrast, '97  
Lyndi Tegtmann, '97  
Barry Thomas, '97  
Jacob Thomas III, '98  
Preston Thomas, '99  
Jennifer Thompson, '99  
BrianTosseng, '97  
Francesca Tovar, '98  
Deanna Tracy, '97  
Alexandra Treff, '99  
Antonios Tsahas, '97  
Kyle Van Valkenburg, '97  
Sandra Vanderwarf, '97  
Kymberly Veal, '98  
William Vines, '99  
Jennifer Vukin, '97  
Stephanie Williams, '97  
Jason Willson, '97  
Jason Whitaker, '99  
Damien Whiteside, '99  
Carl Whitworth, '98  
Matthew Wiberg, '99  
Eugene Wilson II, '99  
Kellie Wilson, '99  
Jenny York, '98  
Joseph Zakutanski, '97  
Mark Zientara, '99  
Amanda Zorich, '98

Should condoms be available in high school?

72% say yes

Safe Sex

28% say No

## Faculty Not Pictured

Beverly Ambroziak,  
Business

Bill Angelidis, Science  
Bob Bergeson, Business

Chuck Carroll, Special Ed  
Jim Dailey, Industrial Arts

Steve DeVillez, Media Specialist  
Miles Dunscombe, Science  
Dee Edgcomb, Guidance  
Mike Krutz, Industrial Arts

Judy LeDuc, Business  
Shirley Renner, Guidance  
Don Slys, Science  
Irene Spiro, Foreign Lang

Paul Abernathy, Math  
Janet Anderson, Art  
Joe Atria, Science  
Maryanne Battistini, Guidance  
Mary Ann Bertram, Foreign  
Language  
Matthew Bodner, P.E.  
Robbie Bothwell, Business  
Lee Bottom, Industrial Arts



Alan Branda, Math  
Judy Chidsey, English  
Linda Christoff, Computer Labs  
Mary Clay, Music  
Andrea Clinkenbeard, Science  
Jeff Clinkenbeard, Science  
Ken Coudret, Science  
Jackie Crone, English



Terri Deeb, Guidance  
Barb Dlouhy, Special Ed.  
Nancy Draper, Math  
Lori Dust, P.E.  
Jim East, Social Studies  
Dick Ebler, Social Studies  
Jim Edgcomb, Social Studies  
Roger Emig, Music



Sharon Estes, English  
Tom Feeney, Math  
Diane Firme, English  
Linda Fry, English  
Drew Furuness, Guidance  
MaryAnn Galanis, Social  
Studies  
Rick Garner, Industrial Arts  
Beth Given, Math





Ray Hamilton, Foreign Lang.  
Dick Hill, Math  
Rick Hurey, Industrial Arts  
Max Hutchinson, Math  
Bill Idzior, Math  
Sherm Iszak, Health/P.E.  
Jim Johnston, Industrial Arts  
Chris Joll, Science



Jerry Kasarda, English/Guest  
Michelle King, English/Library  
Barb Koby, English  
Rosellen Kozel, Special Ed.  
Maggie Lain, Health  
Connie Lewis, English  
Diane Mandon, Social Studies  
Nicole May, English



Patty McNally, Special Ed.  
Mona Miller, P.E.  
Afrodite Mitrakis, Home Ec  
Rob Moore, Social Studies  
Joe Morrow, English  
Pat Mulloy, Social Studies  
Jack Neulpe, Science  
Marianne Oates, Special Ed.



Linda Oldenburg, Art  
Deborah Onika-Brazys, Science  
Tom Peller, Math  
Josefina Poropat, Foreign Lang  
Terry Pratt, Art  
Lisa Precourt, Foreign Lang.  
Bernadine Putz, Business  
Geri Rainey, English Lang



Allen Rawlings, Computer  
Jerauld Reinhart, Auditorium  
Wanda Rice, Art  
Artie Rogers, Social Studies  
Bonnie Sanders, Foreign Lang  
Violet Schmuck, Math  
John Seale, Computer  
Beverley Seaver, English



Cheryl Shankel, Math  
Mary Shashoo, Math  
Maggie Stallings, Home Ec.  
Jean Stanford, Journalism  
Evelyn Steiner, Foreign Lang  
Randy Stelter, English  
Laura Stoner, Home Ec.  
Michelle Sulich, Special Ed.



Dave Teeter, Industrial Arts  
Rick Terpstra, English  
Barbara Timmerman, Music  
Jim Vermillion, Science  
Carol Von Behren, Home Ec.  
Janet Wilson, Special Ed.  
Madeline Wilson, Foreign Lang  
Michelle Wilson, Special Ed.



Rick Wimmer, P.E.  
Bruce Woods, English  
Jeff Yelton, Science  
David Zimmerman, Business  
Mike Zolfo, English



Merrillville Community School Corporation Board of Education: Dale Brooks; L.J. Crist, Vice President; Mark Lucas, President; Donna Stath, Secretary; Timothy Flynn.



Merrillville Community School Corporation Superintendents : Dr. Bud Marks, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel; Dr. Tony Lux, Superintendent of Schools; and Ronald Price, Assistant Superintendent for Finance.



Merrillville High School Athletic Directors: Janis Qualizza, Athletic Director; Tom Cameron, Assistant Athletic Director and Wellness Director.



Merrillville High School Directors: Mary Lou Sproat, Director of Media Services. Not Pictured: Gordon Lorenz, Director of Maintenance; Burt Ogaz, Director of Food Services; and Drew Furness, Director of Guidance.



Merrillville High School Secretaries : Row 1: Debbie Zellers, Elaine Hydinger, Liz Frasca. Row 2: Judy Vassallo, Cheryl Albers, Debbie Klippel, Maggie Miller, Shirley Barclay.



Merrillville High School Aides : Row 1: Barb Branda, Gloria Zale, Rosa Smith, Mary Scheffer. Row 2: Carol Hogan, Pam Niksch, Janet Pennock, Shirley Ortegon, Carol Lamprecht, Margaret Leposky, and Peggy Snelson.





Merrillville High School Principals : Row 1: Janice Minor, Assistant Principal for Seniors. Row 2: Tom Herbert, Assistant Principal for Sophomores and Juniors; Beverly Bashia, Assistant Principal for Freshman, and Dr. Daniel C. Rapacz, Principal.



Merrillville High School Directors: Ray Mixell, Director of Technology.



Merrillville High School Special Education Aides : Row 1: Sandy Miller, Mindy Nelms, Karen Murray. Row 2: Kathy Wilczynski, Debbie Richardson, Kathy Abbate.

## Getting to Know you: Janice Minor

It's a long way from Aruba, one of Janice Murray-Minor's favorite vacation spots, but she spent the last school year at Merrillville High School as assistant principal in charge of the senior class anyway. As a child she had no idea that she

would end up working here, instead she planned to become a lawyer.



A wife and the mother of two sons, Clarence and Christopher, Mrs. Minor grew up in Gary and graduated from Andrean High School. A cheerleader in high school, she also participated in track and National Honor Society.

Mrs. Minor attended college at Central State in Ohio and IU Bloomington majoring in political science and minor-

ing in government and economics.

After 18 years of teaching at Roosevelt High School Mrs. Minor moved into administration. She also served as Dean at Horace Mann and Principal at Kennedy-King Middle School before coming to Merrillville.

Mrs. Minor said, "There are many numerous jobs included in being one of the assistant principals. Just a few of these are: Being the principal in charge of the seniors, being in charge of the building, and being in charge of the rent. This job is definitely a full time job." The three things she liked most about MHS were "the students, faculty, and a devoted staff."

Mrs. Minor had a vision of what she wanted MHS to become. She said, "I would like Merrillville to become a model school for the country as far as with diversity and multi-cultural activities."

She added that if there was one thing she wanted the students to remember about her, it was be the fact that she was "fair and consistent."

Kevin Newton



Merrillville High School ANCHOR Club : Row 1: Janis Flutka, Irma Anaya, Diane Bruner. Row 2: Jean McClain, Enoch Kimbrow, Betty Guice, Mary Ann McGill.



# The Entire Class

WE'RE ONE SCHOOL. FROM THE STUDENT BODY TO THE FACULTY TO THE ADMINISTRATORS. WE WORKED TOGETHER, PLAYED TOGETHER, LAUGHED TOGETHER, AND EVEN STUDIED TOGETHER.

THIS IS OUR RECORD OF WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DID IN THE 1995-96 SCHOOL YEAR FROM THE ACTIVITIES WE PARTICIPATED IN TO THE CLASSES WE TOOK.

YES, WE EVEN HAD LIVES OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL. WE WORKED, HUNG OUT WITH OUR FRIENDS, AND ATTENDED SCHOOL ACTIVITIES. WE WILL REMEMBER THE FUN WE HAD.

IN THE FUTURE WE WILL NEED HELP TO REMEMBER ALL OF THE THINGS THAT ARE STILL SO CLEAR TO US TODAY. WHEN THAT DAY COMES, WE'LL FIND THAT HELP ALONG WITH THE MEMORIES IN THE *MERRILLVUE*. THIS SECTION WILL HELP US REMEMBER THE GOOD TIMES.

IT'S ALL OVER. AS THE BALLOONS DROP SIGNALLING THE END OF COMMENCEMENT, THE CLASS OF 1996 CELEBRATES. THEY WILL MOVE ON TO COLLEGE, THE ARMED SERVICES, OR EVEN JOBS.





ACADEMIC DECATHLON TEAM Row 1: Nikki Bulkowski, Monica Shaffer. Row 2: Robert Heath, Jason Adler, Jim Edgcomb.



ATHLETIC TRAINERS Row 1: Twanna Allen, Ruby Long, Aubrey Kelly. Row 2: Jamie Simpson, Jill Theobald, Jill Harms.



BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS OF AMERICA Row 1: Amy Armstrong, Michelle Janiszewski, Sarah Folz, Michelle Parker, Crystal. Row 2: Nicole Holm, Jill Stamate, Sarah Edwards, Judy LeDuc. Row 3: Dana La Rue, Christine Zorich.

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CLASS OFFICERS Row 1: Elizabeth Bobos, Maegan Krisko, Angela Wusik, Jacquese White. Row 2: John Miller, Joe Moore, Shaun Mc Clain.



CONCERT BAND BRASS & PERCUSSION Row 1: David Orgon, Lisa Fesko, Cortney Lamprecht, Nouha El-Elman, Linda Hinojosa, Eric Gentry. Row 2: Craig Koves, Ryan Scott, Amanda Maloney, Tracy Kleminski, Atlantis Frost, Delrick Williams, Robert Wojcik. Row 3: Justin Atwood, Adam Hazlett, Anthony Azcon, Chris Charleston, Jason Marcus, Kevin Manning. Row 4: Mike Glorioso, Jayson Culp, Brian Kessler, Sam Bergstrom, Jason Jezuit.



CONCERT BAND WOODWINDS Row 1: Ursula Johnson, Leslie Mackowiak, Virginia Bonilla, Melissa Wilson, Cathy Snelson. Row 2: Lateana Hubbard, Taria Selmon, Courtney Yocum, Emily Reilly. Row 3: Lisa Farver, Sara Stupic, Jackie Dienes, Melissa Powers. Row 4: Keith White, Jon Rybicki, Kami West, Chris Irwin.





CONCERT CHOIR Row 1: Christy Stewart, Yoshima Mead, Melissa Dennis, Nina Zamora, Angela Krumrie. Row 2: Lori Stock, Diana Dipert, Michelle Parker, Natalie Mote. Row 3: Amanda Radigan, Tracy Taylor, Shereeta Williams, Kelly Patterson, Dena Jefferson. Row 4: Yvonne Wisinski, Jennifer Trapani, Arnie Frey, Mike Sopko.



CONCERT CHOIR Row 1: Kim Hayes, Jennifer Sanders, Angie Melnik, Kathi Gaines, Elizabeth Navarro. Row 2: Holly Gentry, Michelle Chandler, Wava Riddle, Marisa Thomas



**DRAMA CLUB** Row 1: Kathi Gaines, Stephanie Hogan, Cara Colon, Jennifer Stallkamp, Christina Peterson, Deanna Price, Lisa Taylor. Row 2: Kim Hayes, Katy Cantrell, Brandi Smith, Jeanine Visuue, Jena Ashe, Elizabeth Navarro, Jennifer Price. Row 3: Lisa Quiroga, Kevin Newton, Andy Crane, Jason Reed, Andrea Coates, Rachel Wright, Lisa Farver. Row 4: Matt Cooke, Mike Glorioso, Corey Best, Brian Kessler, Josh Christoff, Mike Vaughn, Lisa Bowen.

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FEA Row 1: Jamie Dobis, Kira Scheub, Jackie Cermak, Carmen Bonilla, Virginia Bonilla. Row 2: Nicole Shultz, Kelly Meeks, Beverley Seaver, Kim Pero. Row 3: Christy Oh, Eric Stage.



FHA Row 1: Missy Stefanski, Cathy Snelson, Melissa Glorioso, Heather Egner. Row 2: Carl Sims, Jason Josleyn, Alex Coppinger.



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**HERO** Row 1: Joanna Harbrecht, Bridgette Praschak, Heather Shawver, Margaret Runion, Teresa Garza. Row 2: Kim Sherwood, Carrie Snow, Rachel Turbyfill, Angie Stapinski, Karen McKay, Falissa Wiggins. Row 3: Richard Knight, Stevie Gruewski, Jeni Nowak, Tori Burdett, Tammy Whik, Molly Anthony. Row 4: Ian Paris, Paul Francis, Dave Eaton, Terrance Williamson, Felipe Jones.

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**JAZZ BAND** Row 1: Shawn Gueyser, Cortney Lamprecht, Rose Castillo, Kristina Green, D'Andre Dennie. Row 2: Brian Snelson, Tania Prough, Jason Marcus, Amanda Moloney. Row 3: Nick Gonzalez, Rafael Ramirez, Aaron Lewis. Row 4: Adam Hazlett, Shawn Peschke, Aaron Malerich, James Bergstrom. Not Pictured: Kara Gonzalez, Bill McKee, Jill Theobald, Matt Magurney, Jeff Smith.



**JETS** Row 1: Sharon Segevich, Frank Halcarz, Joe Moore, Charles Chung.



**KEY CLUB** Row 1: Cathy Snelson, Becky Jenkins, Carmen Bonilla, Lisa Fesko, Janelle Ellison. Row 2: Marisa Van Vollenburg, Carla Ortega, Missy Miazga, Michelle Sulich, Cassie Solomon. Row 3: Maggie Samson, Mike Vaughn, Lisa Kanouse, Kelly Thorn, Becky Berdine, Jackie Dienes. Row 4: Matt Edwards, Melissa Kelsey, Bobby Martinez, Jason Adler, Mike Radiceski.





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NEWSPAPER Row 1: Tanya Pawl, Jennifer Draper, Kim Onoff, Tricia Cantrell, Claudia Neri. Row 2: Anna Papalazarou, Julie Milak, Judy Jennings, Jean Stanford, Mandy Richardson. Row 3: Chris Sikich, Kelli Moore, Scott Mytyk, Don De Long.

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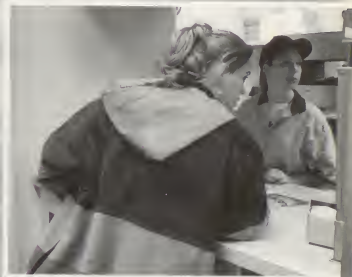
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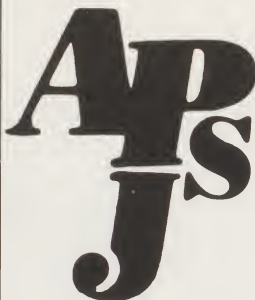
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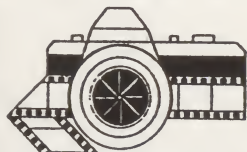
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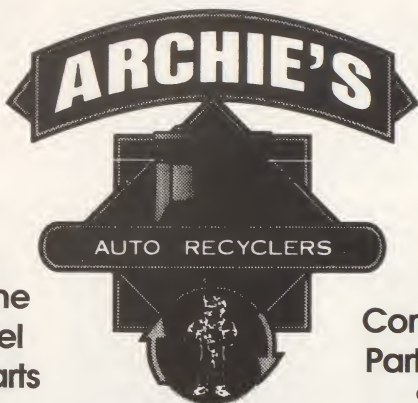
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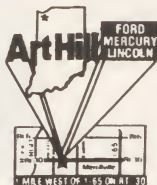
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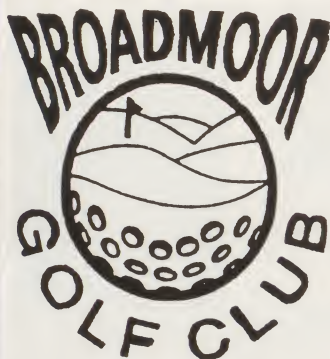
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# Jenny, Congratulations!



Your hard work helped you get this far. College no doubt means more effort to achieve your goal, and we wish you all the best. Remember we're behind you all the way.

*Love,  
Mom, Dad,  
Ken, Chris and Lindsey*

Jennifer Gabriel



## Great job, Staci!



Staci Ahrens

**We're so proud  
of you.**



Rilee Ellen Evans

**We're proud of your  
accomplishments.**

*Love,  
Mom and Ed*

## Congratulations, David



David Kordys

**We're very proud of you.  
Good luck with all your  
future plans.**

*Love,  
Mom and Dad*

## Congratulations Amy.



Amy Lynn Sapczak

**You have made us  
so proud.**

*Love you,  
Mom and Dad*



Kelli Moore

**May you make all of life's  
deadlines with ease.**

*Congratulatlutions,  
Mrs. S. and the Mirror Staff*

## Congratulations Matt.



Matt Nichols

**We love you.**

*Mom, Dad, and April*

Congratulations,



Scott Mytyk

We're so proud of you.

Love,

Mom and Michael



Gina Hampton

Gina,

We are proud of your  
outstanding accom-  
plishments. You are  
a wonderful daughter  
and a very  
special person.

Love always,

Mom and Dad

Mandy,



You are our emissary to the  
21st Century. Aim high;  
profit from you mistakes;  
revel in your achievements.

With extreme pride and love,  
Mom and Dad

Amanda Richardson



**Ben,**  
*You've always  
been super to  
us. Good luck  
at Carthage.*

Love always,  
Mom and Dad



Ben Jarvis



Eric P. Youngren

We're proud  
of you,  
**Anak**

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## STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Student Government would like to extend an open invitation to any member of the MHS student body to come out and experience exactly what Student Government is all about.

This year the state convention was at MHS. Students had a good time boxing as one of the different types of entertainment offered. Candice Parker, '96, takes time out from her responsibilities to demonstrate her boxing ability.





# Congratulations Medalists!!!

Your hard work and dedication  
hasn't gone unnoticed.

## National Qualifiers

Chapter Service - Melissa Gloriosso and Alex Coppinger

Skills for Life - Karen McKay

Entrepreneurship - Heather Egner, Cathy Snelson,  
and Sherrie Stupic

## State Winners

Gold Medal for Skills for Life - Missy Stefanski,  
Carl Sims, and Jason Josleyn

Gold Medal for Job Interview - Chrissy Underwood  
Silver Medal for Interior Design - Carrie Snow



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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 1996

**LEARNING  
BY DOING**

# Congratulations Jamie



We love you and  
are very proud  
of you!

Love,  
Dad, Mom, and Casey

Jamie McKenney



## “PRINCESS”

What a wonderful gift you are!  
You've brought us so much joy!

May you follow your heart and  
make all your dreams come true!  
(Germany's waiting  
for you again.)

Love,  
Mom, Dad,  
Mike and Val

April Pratscher



## Congratulations Andy,



Andrew Crane

Good luck with  
your future plans.

Mrs. S. and the staff

# To our loving children,

May all your  
dreams come  
true.

Love,  
Mom and Dad

Judy Jennings and Jason Jezuit





# WMHS

PNN & Pirate Radio

Wishing the Class of '96 the  
best in all their endeavors.

In 5-4-3-2-1 Take It! Advanced Broadcast students Lauren Fralinger, Brian Snelson, and Marc Holm direct their efforts to a special CNN contest entry.

————Merrillville High School————

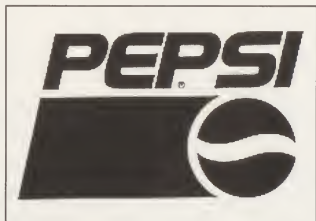
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# Lyle M. Stoelting

## HIS LEGACY LINGERS

Lyle Stoelting, who taught for Merrillville Community School Corporation for 34 years, died in a tragic accident in Utah over the summer.

"I had Mr. Stoelting in summer school. I had the opportunity to get to know him on a personal level. He did so much for me. He also taught me the kind of things that books don't teach you," Stephanie Budzevski, '96, commented.

Stoelting, who taught history, psychology, and sociology was a former head of the Social Studies department.

Economics teacher Jim Edgcomb remembers his friend, "Lyle was a man who bonded with his students. He ran the games club for years and had students return to participate in it several years after they graduated. He was open and friendly to everyone; someone I could talk to about anything at anytime. I miss him."

Stoelting was a favorite with the students. "His classroom was always a relaxed atmosphere. He made his class feel like home instead of an institution," Chris De Mure, '96, said.

Stoelting loved ideas. He liked to discuss them with his peers and share them with his students.

Perhaps the best way to describe Stoelting was to say that he had strong convictions and the courage of those convictions. He would never give up on something he believed in. He was also a fun person with a marvelous sense of humor.

Teachers and administrators who knew Stoelting remember him for the little things he did, such as the friendly "Good Morning" offered to everyone who passed the front entrance each morning. He was full of energy and always ready to lend a hand.

Dr. Daniel C. Rapacz remembered Stoelting's influence of other people. "Lyle Stoelting was an inspiration to many, students and adults alike. He was energetic, thoughtful, and always kind. But, most of all, he was a gentleman, and someone whom I'm happy to have know and to have called my friend."

In addition to starting the games club, Stoelting was an active member of the Multi-Cultural Awareness Task Force. He was instrumental in the development of the Hall of Flags. It has been suggested that the Hall of Flags should be named in his honor.

His legacy lives on at Merrillville High School. Brian Schiefer, '96, was the first recipient of the Lyle M. Stoelting Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship will be presented annually.



## Bothwell, Morrow retire from MHS



Robbie Bothwell

After 34 years teaching for Merrillville Community School Corporation Robbie Bothwell, business teacher, and Joe Morrow, drama, English, and speech teacher are retiring. We wish them well. Though others come to take their places, we will remember all of their contributions to MHS and its students.



Joe Morrow

# 1996 Merrillvue Staff



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## 1996 Editor's Note

OUR FOUR YEARS HERE HAVE ENDED, AND WITH IT SO HAVE MANY MEMORIES. OUR LIVES HAVE BEEN FOREVER CHANGED BY A SIMPLE TWIST OF FATE. FATE THAT LEAD US TO THE PEOPLE WE LOVE AND TO THOSE WHO LOVE US. BUT OUR JOURNEY IS FAR FROM OVER. WE HAVE LEFT BEHIND WHAT COULD HAVE BEEN THE EASIEST FOUR YEARS OF OUR LIVES, TO HEAD TO NEW AND BIGGER CHALLENGES.

IT WAS A BOND THAT DROVE US TOGETHER, AND HELD US THERE; A BOND CALLED FRIENDSHIP. HIGH SCHOOL MAY HAVE SEEMED LIKE A SHORT TIME, BUT YOUR PHOTO ALBUMS AND YOUR SHOE BOXES, HOLD

THE MEMORIES OF A LIFETIME.

THE FACES THAT HAVE GRACED THE HALLS OF MHS ARE ABOUT TO CHANGE, AND SO ARE THE FACES OF THE WORLD. NOW IT'S OUR TURN TO TAKE OUR KNOWLEDGE, AND TO MAKE OUR DREAMS A REALITY.

FIRST CLASS WASN'T JUST A THEME. IT DESCRIBED US, THE CLASS OF 1996. WE WERE THE FIRST FRESHMAN TO ATTEND THE NEWLY RENOVATED MHS FOR ALL FOUR YEARS, WE WERE THE FIRST CLASS TO MAKE A MAJOR CHANGE IN OUR GRADUATION TRADITIONS BY CHANGING THE ROBES.

WE GREW UP WAY TOO FAST, BUT WE LEARNED MORE ABOUT OURSELVES AND OUR FRIENDS ALONG THE WAY. PICTURES AND OLD LETTERS HAVE ALL BECOME OUR HISTORY.

AS YOU WALKED ACROSS THE STAGE THAT LITTLE GIRL OR BOY YOU USED TO BE STOOD BEHIND THE CURTAIN AND SMILED. AND AS HE OR SHE WALKED AWAY, INSIDE YOU FELT THAT A PART OF YOU HAD STOPPED AND ANOTHER HAD TAKEN OVER.

OUR HIGH SCHOOL DAYS ARE OVER, BUT THERE ARE STILL MANY WHO WILL VENTURE WHERE WE HAVE BEEN AND EXPERIENCE THE THINGS WE HAVE. BUT NEVER WILL THERE BE ANOTHER FIRST CLASS, THE CLASS OF 1996.

BEST WISHES,  
JAMIE MCKENNEY  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

## 1996 Merrillvue Colophon

THEME.....FIRST CLASS

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## ...First Class

The hallways filled with laughter and voices, and slamming lockers as the last bell for the year rang. For most of us it would be a sound we would hear many more times, and for those graduating seniors a sound, perhaps we would gladly say good-bye to. This year wasn't about any one. It was about everyone. It was about making memories and having fun with friends. We broke traditions and in the process created new ones. High school changed each of us. It helped define who we were, and the decisions we chose to make. Whether they were wrong or right they taught us all a little more than the average everyday curriculum. We left behind the tardy slips, the crowded halls, and







the long lines. But we also left behind a part of our class, and ourselves. Our lives were touched by each person we met, and in turn we touched theirs. We said good-bye to a part of our lives we had been used to for four years, but we were saying hello to a new beginning. The underclassmen would soon experience the trials and struggles each senior had faced. But they also would make the memories and choices that would help shape their lives inside and outside of school. Our school was a **"First Class"** school, our friends were **"First Class"** but most important there would never be another year quite like ours. Nobody could ever replace the **"First Class."**



19

JAY LACNY PLAYS  
WITH HIS BAND  
"HOUDINI" AT THE  
REVUE.



CHRISTIE BERRY  
SHALAINÉ  
PINELL, MISSY  
POITS, AND  
WENDY SHOTTS,  
HAVE A BLAST  
DANCING AT  
PROM.



AARON LEWIS LOUNGES ON  
A TREE, AFTER HEADING FOR  
HIGHER GROUND AT THE  
DUNES ON THE SENIOR TRIP.



96

"GET DOWN, GET DOWN!" BRIAN  
NEELY JUMPS ON STAGE ALONG  
WITH FRIENDS TO ADD TO PROM  
ATTRACTIONS.



MIKE  
VILLANUEVA  
TAKES A BREAK  
FROM SOCIALIZ-  
ING AT THE  
SENIOR  
BREAKFAST.  
VILLANUEVA  
WON BEST  
DANCER.



"DINNER  
ANYONE?"  
TRAVIS SCHMIDT  
ASKED.  
SCHMIDT  
HUNTED IN HIS  
SPARE TIME.

"Everybody wants to live, how they wanna live, and everybody wants to love, how they wanna love, and everybody wants to be, closer to free."

-The BoDeans



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the 1990s, the number of people in the UK who are aged 65 and over has increased by 1.5 million, and the number of people aged 75 and over has increased by 1.1 million (Office of National Statistics 1999). The number of people aged 85 and over has increased by 0.5 million.

There is a growing awareness of the need to address the needs of the ageing population. The Department of Health (1999) has published a strategy for ageing, which sets out the government's commitment to improve the lives of older people. The strategy is based on three main principles: (1) to ensure that older people have the opportunity to live independently and actively; (2) to ensure that older people have access to the services and support they need; and (3) to ensure that older people are treated with respect and dignity.

The strategy is based on the following assumptions: (1) that older people are a valuable resource; (2) that older people have the right to live independently and actively; (3) that older people have the right to access the services and support they need; and (4) that older people should be treated with respect and dignity. The strategy is based on the following principles: (1) to ensure that older people have the opportunity to live independently and actively; (2) to ensure that older people have access to the services and support they need; and (3) to ensure that older people are treated with respect and dignity.

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the 1990s, the number of people with a diagnosis of schizophrenia has increased in the United Kingdom (Meltzer 1996). The prevalence of schizophrenia in the United Kingdom is estimated to be 1.2% (Meltzer 1996). The prevalence of schizophrenia in the United States is estimated to be 1.1% (Meltzer 1996). The prevalence of schizophrenia in the United States is estimated to be 1.1% (Meltzer 1996).

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